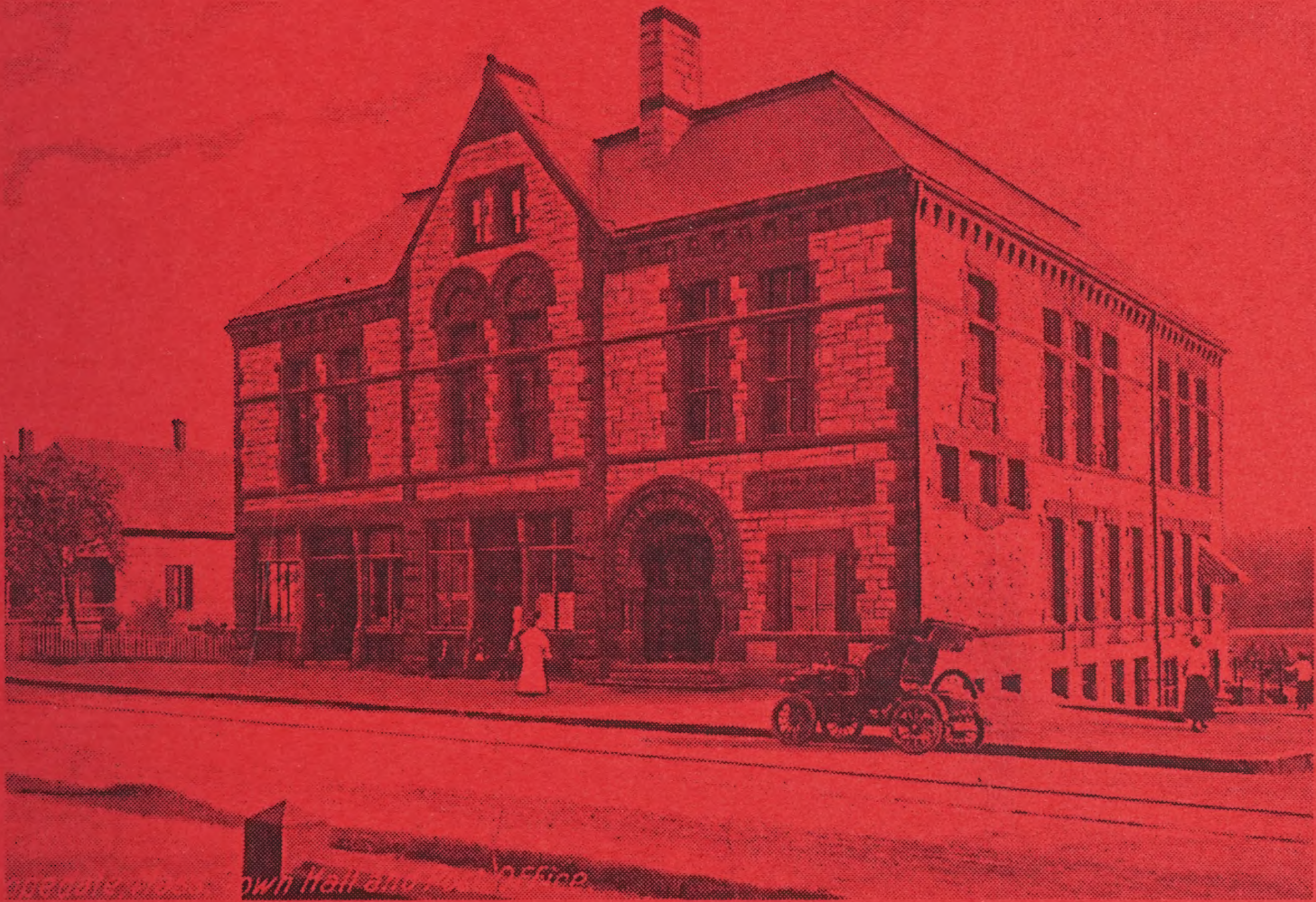


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF HOPEDALE



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH EDITION

JULY 1, 2003 TO JUNE 30, 2004

FISCAL YEAR 2004

INDEX

Appointed Town Officials	5
Elected Federal and State Officials	3
Elected Town Officials	4
General Interest Information	1
Telephone Directory	2

ELECTION

Annual Town Election	8
----------------------------	---

TOWN MEETINGS

Special Town Meeting Warrant – October 21, 2003	9
Special Town Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2003	13
Annual Town Meeting Warrant – April 13, 2004	17
Special Town Meeting Warrant – June 22, 2004	21
Annual & Special Town Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2004	24

REPORTS

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District	41
Board of Health	44
Clerk	46
Board of Selectmen	47
Building Department	48
Cable Access	49
Conservation Commission	50
Council on Aging	51
Cultural Council	54
Fire Department	53
Historical Commission	62
Housing Authority	65
Library	67
Local Emergency Management	60
Park Commission	69
Planning Board	74
Police Department	75
Red Shop Preservation Committee	78
Registration of Voters	79
Road Commission	80
School Committee	81
School Superintendent	83
S. Hopedale Cemetery Report	64
Town Counsel	84
Town Treasurer	86
Wages Paid to Municipal Employees	90
Veterans' Services	102
Water & Sewer Commission	101



GENERAL INTEREST INFORMATION

Town of Hopedale - Incorporated April 7, 1886

POPULATION:	5979
REGISTERED VOTERS:	3737
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:	Second Tuesday in April
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION:	Second Tuesday in May
AREA:	5.12 sq.mi



Editor's Notes:

Thank you to the officials who submitted reports for this edition.

We are currently working on the Town website that can be viewed at www.hopedale-ma.gov

**TOWN OF HOPEDALE
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**

GENERAL OFFICE:

Town Hall	634-2203
78 Hopedale Street	634-2204
P.O. Box 7	634-2205
Board of Selectmen	ext. 13
Town Coordinator	ext. 13
Town Accountant	ext. 19
Town Treasurer/Tax Collector	ext. 18
Water/Sewer Department	ext. 17
Board of Assessors	ext. 24
Town Clerk	ext. 15

Highway Department	634-2203
7 Depot Street	ext. 21

Council on Aging	634-2208
------------------	----------

Bancroft Library	634-2209
------------------	----------

Police Department	634-2227
Police Emergency	911

Fire Department	473-1050
Fire/Medical Emergency	911

Waste Water Treatment Plant	634-2210
154 Mendon Street	

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Memorial School – 54 Adin Street	634-2214
Junior/Senior High School – 25 Adin Street	
Superintendent's Office	634-2220
Principal's Office	634-2217
Guidance Office	634-2221
Pupil Personnel Services	634-2240

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATOR

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
District Office: 2400 JFK Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203
(617)565-3170
E-mail: senator@kennedy.senate.gov

U.S. SENATOR

Senator John F. Kerry
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
District Office: 90 Madison Place, Room 205
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-7380
E-mail: john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov

U.S. CONGRESSMAN

Richard E. Neal
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202)225-5601
District Office: 4 Congress Street
Post Office Building
Milford, MA 01757
(508)634-8198
E-mail: www.house.gov/writerep

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

W. Mitt Romney
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
(617)725-4005
E-mail: www.mass.gov

SENATOR IN MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE

Richard T. Moore
State House
Boston, MA 02133
(617)722-1420
E-mail: www.mass.gov

REPRESENTATIVE IN MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE

Marie J. Parente
State House, Room 466
Boston, MA 02133
(617)722-2017
E-mail: www.mass.gov

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
ELECTED OFFICIALS

Blackstone Valley Vocational High School Committee	Robert Metcalf	2006
Board of Selectmen	Mike Milanoski	2005
	Michael Collins	2006
	Alan Ryan	2007
Clerk	Janet Orff Jacaruso	2007
Board of Health	Robert Moro	2005
	Peter Mitchell	2006
	Elizabeth "Betsy" Sales	2007
Housing Authority	Karen Villani	2005
	Louis Trevani	2006
	Edith Francis	2007
	Robert "Zeke" Hammond	2008
	Paula Malloy	2009
Library Trustees	Nancy Verdolino	2005
	Kathy Wright	2006
	Frederick Oldfield, III	2007
Moderator	Francis J. Larkin	2006
Park Commission	James Binney	2005
	Meg McElroy	2006
	Richard Espanet	2007
Road Commission	John Farrar, Jr.	2005
	William Marquis	2006
	Donald Fafard	2007
School Committee	Louis Arcudi	2005
	Liz Lerner	2006
	Richard Mank	2006
	Richard Martin	2007
	Justine Tonelli	2007
Planning Board	Harland Griffin	2005
	Catherine Pisacane	2006
	D. Craig Travers	2007
	Carol Whyte	2009
		2008
Tree Warden	Leo F. Lyons	2005
Water & Sewer Commission	James Morin	2005
	Aldo Tarca	2006
	Eugene Phillips	2007

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
APPOINTED OFFICIALS 2004

*Chairperson

		<u>Term Ends</u>
ADA Coordinator	Daniel Keyes	
Animal Inspector	Leon Mael	2005
Bancroft Memorial Library Director	Beth Hoffer	
Board of Assessors	Lisa Alberto*	2006
	Teresa Gonsalves	2005
	Eugene Phillips	2004
Board of Registrars	Joseph Drugan	2007
	Dorothy Milanoski*	2006
	Robert "Zeke" Hammond	2005
Building Commissioner & Zoning Enforcement	Michael Tusino	2004
Capital Program Committee	Colleen Strapponi (F)	2005
	Edward Burt	2005
	Karla Hopkins (F)	2004
Cemetery Committee	Roberta Simmons	2005
Central Mass. Reg. Planning	Alan Ryan	2005
Committee on Disabilities	Peter Ellis, Jr. Margaret Flynn	
Conservation Commission	Michael Basiner	2004
	Jennifer Carlino*	2005
	Curtis Clark	2006
	Roy Nutting	2007
	_____	2008
Constables	John Gagnon	2007
	James Gardner	2007
	Richard Mank	2007
	Donald Martin	2007
	Francis McVeigh	2007

Council on Aging	Barbara Delphos	2005
	Julia Manning	2005
	Virginia Potty	2005
	Claudette Hughes	2006
	Nancilee Fuller	2007
	Edward Holland	2007
	Patricia Johnson	2007
Council on Aging Director	Carole Mullen	
Cultural Council	Dorothy Susanska*	2005
	Sally Decelles	2007
	Patty Samalis	2007
	Joanne Andreotti	2008
	Ellen Murphy	2009
	Kate Nolan-Pisacane	2009
Dog Officer	Michael Izzo	
Finance Committee	Karla Hopkins	2007
	Mary Ann Roche	2006
	Donald Comastra	2005
	James Carroll*	2005
	Colleen Strapponi	2005
	Edward Burt	2004
Fire Chief & Local Emergency Management	Scott Garland	
Gas & Plumbing Inspector	John Fontana	2005
Health Agent	Lenny Izzo	
Highway Superintendent	Robert DePonte	
Historical Commission	Merrily Sparling*	2007
	Frederick Oldfield III	2007
	Robert "Zeke" Hammond	2006
	Alan Ryan	2006
	Robert Brown	2005
	William Gannett	2005
	Tara Taglianetti-Chambers	2005
	William Hardiman	2005
Historical Documents	Judith Phillips	2005
	Robert "Zeke" Hammond	

	Frederick Oldfield III Merrily Sparling	
Housing Authority Director	Katherine Consigli	
Hous. Auth. State Appt.	Edith Francis	2005
Parking Fines Clerk	Donna Lamphere	2005
Personnel Committee	Albert C. Gray Dennis J. Madigan Meg McElroy John S. Moore Harold Murphy Catherine Pisacane*	
Police Chief	Eugene Costanza	
Red Shop Committee	Robert Brown William Gannett Merrily Sparling	
School Superintendent	Andrea Hallion	
Tax Collector/Treasurer	Christine Goodwin	
Town Accountant	Sharon Emerick	
Town Coordinator	Daniel Keyes	
Town Counsel	Kopelman & Paige	
Veterans Agent	Anthony Mastroianni	
Water Superintendent	Timothy Watson	
WWTP Superintendent	Donald Cooper	
Wiring Inspector	Joseph Scanzaroli	
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thomas Haynes*	2005
	Louis Arcudi III	2005
	Steven Gallagher	2006
	Ross Mazzarelli	2006
	Timothy Alger	2007
	Andrew L. Jacaruso, Alt.	2005

Annual Town Election
May 11, 2004

Selectman (3 years)

*Alan Ryan	623
Blanks	163
Write-ins	11

Planning Board (5 years)

Blanks	713
Write-ins	84
*Carol Whyte	

Town Clerk (3 years)

Ronda I. Ohannesian	311
*Janet Orff Jacaruso	476
Blanks	10
Write-ins	0

Planning Board (4 years)

Blanks	739
Write-ins	58

School Committee (3 years) Vote for 2

*Richard Martin	466
*Justine Tonelli	520
Louis Trevani	322
Blanks	282
Write-ins	4

Library Trustee (3 years)

*Frederick Oldfield	634
Blanks	162
Write-ins	1

Water & Sewer Commission (3 years)

*Eugene N. Phillips	627
Blanks	160
Write-ins	10

Board of Health (3 years)

*Elizabeth "Betsy" Sales	600
Blanks	193
Write-ins	4

Park Commission (3 years)

*Richard "Rick" Espanet	642
Blanks	149
Write-ins	6

Road Commission (3 years)

*Donald Fafard	611
Blanks	184
Write-ins	2

Housing Authority (5 years)

Nancilee Fuller	242
*Paula Malloy	369
David Sawyer	110
Blanks	75
Write-ins	1

* denotes winner

TOWN OF HOPEDALE – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, October 21st, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester.
Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, October 21st, 2003 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds as detailed below to pay prior year bills (pre 7/1/03), or take any other action related thereto.

Commentary: Proposed transfers (9/10th vote required.) from existing accounts total \$ for:

Liability Insurance
Planning Board Stipends

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer sums of money from certain accounts to others to adjust the fiscal year 2004 operating budget, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 3: Geographic Information System (GIS) To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 18, paragraphs (a) and (b) and Subsection 18.3 as follows:

Delete paragraphs (a) and (b) under the above referenced Section and Subsection and replace with the following:

- (a) Filing: An applicant for site plan review shall obtain and complete a "Subdivision/Site Plan Review Distribution Form" from the Town Clerk prior to submission of the plan. The applicant shall file with the Planning Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the "Subdivision/Site Plan Review Distribution Form", ten (10) copies of the site plan and any supporting information. Plans shall be submitted on a material approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with a minimum of one (1) copy submitted on translucent mylar.
- (b) Submission Requirements: Site plans shall be prepared by a registered professional engineer, registered architect or registered landscape architect and shall have an accuracy meeting or exceeding the standards for a "Class A-2 Survey" as defined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Plans shall be prepared on standard 36" x 24", 24" x 18" or 18" x 12" sheets and at a scale of 1" = 40' (or another scale previously approved by the Planning Board). All plans shall be prepared in the Massachusetts Mainland State Plane Coordinate System and the 1983 North American Datum (NAD83) and shall contain the following information."

Add the following Subparagraphs under the Paragraph (b) of the above referenced Section and Subsection:

- (11) Plans shall include meets and bounds of all perimeter information in feet, with Massachusetts Mainland State Plane Coordinate System coordinates indicated at a minimum of four (4) points distributed on the perimeter, and the proposed layout and boundaries of all lots or parts into which a parcel and/or parcels is to be subdivided.
- (12) All lot lines, easements and street information associated with the proposed plan shall be submitted in a digital format on CD-ROM media in either AutoCAD DWG format, ESRI Shapefile format or ArcInfo format. Applicant shall contact the Town's GIS operator and/or consultant, via the Town Coordinator, to determine versions in use or for additional assistance in preparation of the required information

or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 2, by adding the following new sub-section 2.29A after sub-section 2.29:

"2.29A Lot Shape Factor/Residential Districts: To meet the minimum area requirements in Residential Districts, a lot must be a closed plot of land having a definite area and perimeter and having a Lot Shape Factor not exceeding the numerical value of 22 in the RA, RA-1, RA-2, RB, RP-1 and RC Districts, except that a lot may have a shape factor exceeding said numerical value if the proposed building site is located on a portion of a lot that itself meets the minimum lot area requirement and has a shape factor not exceeding said numerical value and such lots shall not be created to a depth greater than two (2) lots from the principal way. The Lot Shape Factor shall be the numerical value resulting from: (a) division of the square of the perimeter in feet of a lot by the area in square feet thereof; or (b) division of the square of the perimeter in feet of that portion of a lot intended as the site for building by the area in square feet thereof." or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 2, by adding the following new sub-section 2.28A after sub-section 2.28:

"2.28A Lot Width [**Added ____ (date by Bylaw Amendment) ____**]

- A. The lot width is the diameter of the required circle, placed between side lot lines and tangential to the frontage of a given lot. The required circle shall be entirely contained within the lot's perimeter.
- B. No building or structure shall be constructed on a lot having less width than the required lot width specified in the Schedule of Lot Area, Frontage, Yard and Height Requirements, Section 13 TABLE OF REGULATIONS, for the district in which said lot is located.¹
- C. The following properties are specifically exempt from this definition:
 - (1) Lots, buildings and structures which are exempt from the provisions of this definition under the provisions of MGL c. 40 §6; and
 - (2) Any lot shown on a plan recorded with the Registry of Deeds or filed with the Land Court prior to the effective date of the bylaw amendment that added this definition.

¹ Editor's Note: Said schedule is located on page 13-1, "SECTION 13. Table of Regulations".

- D. Any lot improved with a building prior to the effective date of the zoning bylaw amendment that added this definition which does not conform to the provisions of this definition because such lot's width was not regulated shall be deemed to comply with the provisions of this definition and shall not be deemed to be prior nonconforming" or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 13 by adding the following "Lot Width and Lot Shape Factor Schedule" to the Table of Regulations contained therein:

	RA	RA-1	RA-2	RB	RP-1	RC	GB	C	I	LI	HMF
Lot Width (Minimum circle diameter)(j)	45	90	36	135	135	90	90	135	135	90	360
Lot Shape Factor(k)	22	22	22	22	22	22	-	-	-	-	-

and by adding the following new footnotes 13.1(j) and (k) thereto after footnote 13.1(i):
 "13.1(j) Minimum circle diameter is equal to ninety percent of minimum lot frontage. Refer to 2.28A.
 13.1(k) Lot shape factor shall not exceed the numerical value listed. Refer to 2.29A." or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$5,000.00 for the Board of Health to conduct a household hazardous waste day and to return any excess fees to the general fund, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 8: Civil Service

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; and provided further that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

AN ACT EXEMPTING MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE IN THE TOWN OF HOPEDALE FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 156 of the Acts of 2000, or any other general or special law or act to the contrary, the position of regular or permanent members of the police force, including intermittent reserve officers and police chief, in the town of Hopedale shall hereafter be exempt from chapter 31 of the General Laws.


SECTION 2. Section 1 shall not impair the civil service status of the persons serving as employees on the police force in the town of Hopedale on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than fourteen days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 6th day of October, 2003.

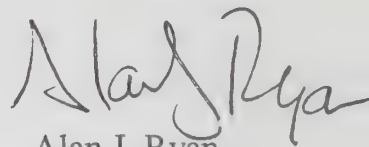
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Michael A. Milanoski



Michael E. Collins, Chm.




Alan J. Ryan

A True Copy, ATTEST:

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.




Constable


Date

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
10/21/03 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MINUTES

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and town affairs met in the Auditorium of JR/SR High School. At 7:20 PM the Moderator called the meeting to order and declared a quorum (50) present. The meeting was called under the authority of a Warrant dated October 06, 2003.

Motion made to give “floor privileges” to the following out of town officials:

Chief of Police, Gene Costanza	Chief of Fire, Scott Garland
Accountant Sharon Emerick	Town Coordinator, Dan Keyes
Superintendent Andrea Hallion	Health Agent, Lenny Izzo

Seconded and Voted unanimously.

ARTICLE 1: Mike Collins, Chairman of the Selectmen, moved to transfer \$7,353.99 from the following accounts to pay prior year bills. *Commentary: (9/10th vote required.)*

<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Police Salaries	\$1147.71	Cherie Mason	\$1147.71
Liability Insurance	\$3500.00	Massamont Insurance	\$3500.00
Planning Board Stipends	\$1850.00	Planning Board Members	\$1850.00
Water Professional/Tech.	\$ 856.28	Tata & Howard	\$ 856.28

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 2: Mike Collins moved to Pass Over.

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Mike Weaver, Planning Board member, gave an explanation of the next four articles, and moved Article 3.

ARTICLE 3: I move to amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section 18, paragraphs (a) and (b) and Subsection 18.3 as follows:

Delete paragraphs (a) and (b) under the above referenced Section and Subsection and replace with the following:

- (a) Filing: An applicant for site plan review shall obtain and complete a "Subdivision/Site Plan Review Distribution Form" from the Town Clerk prior to submission of the plan. The applicant shall file with the Planning Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the "Subdivision/Site Plan Review Distribution Form", ten (10) copies of the site plan and any supporting information. Plans shall be submitted on a material approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with a minimum of one (1) copy submitted on translucent mylar.
- (b) Submission Requirements: Site plans shall be prepared by a registered professional engineer, registered architect or registered landscape architect and shall have an accuracy meeting or exceeding the standards for a "Class A-2 Survey" as defined by the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Plans shall be prepared on standard 36" x 24", 24" x 18" or 18" x 12" sheets and at a scale of 1" = 40' (or another scale previously approved by the Planning Board). All plans shall be prepared in the Massachusetts Mainland State Plane Coordinate System and the 1983 North American Datum (NAD83) and shall contain the following information."

Add the following Subparagraphs under the Paragraph (b) of the above referenced Section and Subsection:

- (11) Plans shall include meets and bounds of all perimeter information in feet, with Massachusetts Mainland State Plane Coordinate System coordinates indicated at a minimum of four (4) points distributed on the perimeter, and the proposed layout and boundaries of all lots or parts into which a parcel and/or parcels is to be subdivided.
- (12) All lot lines, easements and street information associated with the proposed plan shall be submitted in a digital format on CD-ROM media in either AutoCAD DWG format, ESRI Shapefile format or ArcInfo format. Applicant shall contact the Town's GIS operator and/or consultant, via the Town Coordinator, to determine versions in use or for additional assistance in preparation of the required information.

[Requires 2/3 vote.]

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 4 Mike Weaver moved to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 2, by adding the following new sub-section 2.29A after sub-section 2.29:

"2.29A Lot Shape Factor/Residential Districts: To meet the minimum area requirements in Residential Districts, a lot must be a closed plot of land having a definite area and perimeter and having a Lot Shape Factor not exceeding the numerical value of 22 in the RA, RA-1, RA-2, RB, RP-1 and RC Districts, except that a lot may have a shape factor exceeding said numerical value if the proposed building site is located on a portion of a lot that itself meets the minimum lot area requirement and has a shape factor not exceeding said numerical value and such lots shall not be created to a depth greater than two (2) lots from the principal way. The Lot Shape Factor shall be the numerical value resulting from: (a) division of the square of the perimeter in feet of a lot by the area in square feet thereof; or (b) division of the square of the perimeter in feet of that portion of a lot intended as the site for building by the area in square feet thereof."

[Requires 2/3 vote.]

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 5: Mike Weaver moved to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 2, by adding the following new sub-section 2.28A after sub-section 2.28:

"2.28A Lot Width [**Added ____ (date by Bylaw Amendment) ____**]

- A. The lot width is the diameter of the required circle, placed between side lot lines and tangential to the frontage of a given lot. The required circle shall be entirely contained within the lot's perimeter.
- B. No building or structure shall be constructed on a lot having less width than the required lot width specified in the Schedule of Lot Area, Frontage, Yard and Height Requirements, Section 13 TABLE OF REGULATIONS, for the district in which said lot is located.

(2) Any lot shown on a plan recorded with the Registry of Deeds or filed with the Land Court prior to the effective date of the bylaw amendment that added this definition.

- D. Any lot improved with a building prior to the effective date of the zoning bylaw amendment that added this definition which does not conform to the provisions of this definition because such lot's width was not regulated shall be deemed to comply with the provisions of this definition and shall not be deemed to be prior nonconforming"

[Requires 2/3 vote.]

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 6: Mike Weaver moved to amend the Zoning By-Laws, Section 13 by adding the following "Lot Width and Lot Shape Factor Schedule" to the Table of Regulations contained therein:

	RA	RA-1	RA-2	RB	RP-1	RC	GB	C	I	LI	HMF
Lot Width (Minimum circle diameter)(j)	45	90	36	135	135	90	90	135	135	90	360
Lot Shape Factor(k)	22	22	22	22	22	22	-	-	-	-	-

and by adding the following new footnotes 13.1(j) and (k) thereto after footnote 13.1(i):
"13.1(j) Minimum circle diameter is equal to ninety percent of minimum lot frontage. Refer to 2.28A.

13.1(k) Lot shape factor shall not exceed the numerical value listed. Refer to 2.29A."

[Requires 2/3 vote.]

Motion seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 7 Judge Larkin explained and moved to PASS OVER this article.

Motion seconded and passed unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 8: Civil Service

Mike Milanoski, Selectman, moved to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; and provided further that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

AN ACT EXEMPTING MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE IN THE TOWN OF HOPEDALE FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 156 of the Acts of 2000, or any other general or special law or act to the contrary, the position of regular or permanent members of the police force, including intermittent reserve officers and police chief, in the town of Hopedale shall hereafter be exempt from chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. Section 1 shall not impair the civil service status of the persons serving as employees on the police force in the town of Hopedale on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Chief Costanza spoke and explained the article.

Motion seconded and passed unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Motion made, seconded and voted unanimously to dissolve Special Town Meeting.

GOOD NIGHT HOPEDALE!

TOWN OF HOPEDALE – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, April 13th, 2004 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester.
Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, April 13th, 2004, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to GLc.41, §108 to fix the annual salary and compensation for each elected Town officer and further to see if the Town will vote to fix the annual compensation for special appointed officials for his/her service in fiscal year 2005, or take any other action related thereto.

Commentary: The proposed amounts are:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Total Compensation for Position(s)</i>
<i>Town Moderator (1)</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>Board of Selectmen (3)</i>	<i>\$6,500</i>
<i>Town Clerk (1)*</i>	<i>\$22,292</i>
<i>Road Commissioners (3)</i>	<i>\$2,200</i>
<i>Board of Health (3)</i>	<i>\$1,850</i>
<i>Park Commissioners (3)</i>	<i>\$1,600</i>
<i>Water/Sewer Commissioners (3)</i>	<i>\$1,600</i>
<i>Tree Warden (1)</i>	<i>\$1000</i>
<i>Planning Board (5)</i>	<i>\$3,700</i>
<i>Board of Assessors (3) appt.</i>	<i>\$4,100</i>
<i>Board of Registrars (3) appt.</i>	<i>\$1,600</i>
<i>Clerk to Registrars (1)</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Zoning Board of Appeals (5) appt.</i>	<i>\$1,300</i>
<i>Finance Committee (9) appt.</i>	<i>\$950</i>

** Town Clerk is paid weekly; all others twice per year.*

The School Committee compensation for 5 totaling \$5,500 is contained in the School Department Budget.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$120,060.00 from available funds as detailed below, or take any action related thereto.

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Police Stairs	\$10,800.00	Municipal Alarm	\$504.73
Police Cruiser	\$26,900.00	Town Hall Repairs & Study	\$21,050.00
Highway Barn Repairs	\$17,360.00	Fire Dept Apron	\$13,000.00
Highway Sand/Salt Shed	\$65,000.00	Highway Drainage	\$7,120.00
		BOH Fence	\$2,292.00
		Wood Chipper	\$4,815.00
		Statue of Hope	\$9,744.27
		Fire Rescue Boat	\$754.62
		Red Shop Cupola	\$10,000.00
		Cemetery Wall	\$2,250.00
		Hopedale St Drainage	\$15,021.26
		Town Hall Ren Grant	\$9,150.00
		Public Safety Comm sys	\$7,400.00
		Highway Liq Calc Disp	\$1,877.06
		RR overpass	\$9,000.00
		Town Clerk Bylaw Codif.	\$716.64
		Capital Projects	\$5,364.42

Submitted by: Capital Planning

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from overlay surplus the sum of \$57,000.00 for the purpose of funding a Superior Court Judgment, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Selectmen

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or raise and appropriate the sum of \$208,298.00 to offset Capital items as listed below, or take any other action related thereto.

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Highway Barn Repairs	\$2,535.00
Highway Int'l w/Plow	\$114,663.00
School Kitchen Floor	\$9,000.00
School Sinks	\$6,100.00
School Chair Lift	\$26,000.00
School Technology	\$15,000.00
School Lease (3 buses)	\$35,000.00

Submitted by: Capital Planning

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Town Bylaw, Chapter XXII-B, The Personnel Administration Bylaw, to adjust the percentage applicable to the compensation plan, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, transfer, or borrow a sum of money for the planning and construction of a Hopedale Storm Water Management

Program and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust or otherwise; and to take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100,000.00 for architectural and start up cost for the purpose of upgrading Town Hall to become compliant with Federal Law under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Sewer Enterprise Account to the Capital Projects line the sum of \$60,000.00 to replace approximately 120 feet of sewer main and to replace a 40hp blower unit, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Water and Sewer Comm.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,000.00 for (10) SCBA breathing apparatus bottles to replace (10) outdated SCBA bottles no longer in service, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Fire Department

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$5,430.00 for the replacement of seven (7) 6' x 6', one (1) 6' x 8" and (1) 6' x 15" loop detectors at the intersection of Mendon and Hopedale Street, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Road Commission

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$5,600.00 for the installation of a traffic signal timer, at the intersection of Route 16 and Hopedale Street, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Road Commission

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through assessments provided under GLc. 83, §16, and to be collected under GLc. 44, §53E bond issue payments of \$80,648.85 for the Sewer Department or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Water and Sewer Commissioners

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available Treasury funds, such sums of money as deemed necessary to defray Town charges for fiscal Year 2005 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into and/or out of the Stabilization Fund as provided under GLc. 40, §5B, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc. 44, §53E ½ for the purpose of funding a hazardous waste collection day and recycling program to include composting and yard waste and other related costs,

which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Board of Health to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed \$30,000.00 for the fiscal year 2005; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc. 44, §53E ½ for the purpose of funding the operating costs of the animal control division of the Hopedale Board of Health, which fund will be credited with receipts for the boarding of stray animals, fines for violations, and the licensing of animals, to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed \$10, 000.00 for the fiscal year 2005; or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Board of Health

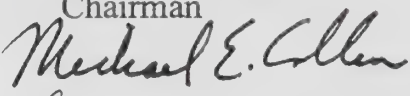


ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with GLc. 131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2005, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Conservation Commission

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds for the purpose of proving road paving/improvement projects, or take any other action related thereto.
Submitted by: Road Commissioners

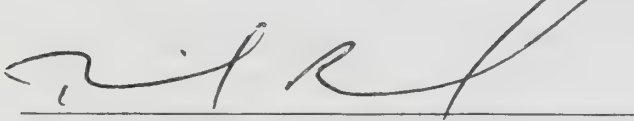
You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than seven days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 6th day of April 2004.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael A. Milanoski	Michael E. Collins Chairman	Alan J. Ryan
		
A True Copy, ATTEST:		

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.



Constable

4-6-04

Date

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
FY2003 and FY2004

Tuesday, June 22nd, 2004 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester.
Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to Vote in Town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, June 22nd, 2004, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

FY2004

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay prior year bills (pre7/1/03), or take any other action related thereto.

Commentary: Proposed transfers (9/10th vote required.) from existing accounts total
\$ for:

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Aspen Publishing	\$152.25	Building Inspector	\$152.25
Anastas Lock and Safe	\$186.50	Coordinator	\$186.50
Fire Fighter Salaries	\$1,606.95	Fire Part Time Salaries	\$1,605.95

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay existing year bills, or take any other action related thereto. *Commentary:* proposed transfers (majority vote required) from existing accounts total

\$ for:

<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Coordinator expense	\$2,000.00	Coordinator salary	\$3,073.00
Town Audit	\$5,000.00	Coord. Part Time Salary	\$3,120.00
Assessors Salary	\$6,000.00	Coordinator	\$760.00
Treas/Coll Assistant	\$3,600.00	Legal	\$41,000.00
Tax Title	\$4,000.00	Planning Board Stipends	\$1,850.00
Police Expense	\$10,000.00	Zoning Board Expense	\$600.00
Liability Insurance	\$5,000.00	Town Hall	\$5,000.00
Police Salary	\$69,000.00	Police Overtime	\$69,000.00
Dispatch Overtime	\$8,000.00	Dispatch Salary	\$8,000.00
Highway Expense	\$20,000.00	Snow & Ice	\$37,173.00
Fire Salaries	\$7,000.00	Legal	\$7,000.00
Fire Overtime	\$13,000.00	Legal	\$13,000.00
Veterans Expense	\$2,000.00	Town Detail	\$6,000.00
Dog Officer	\$2,785.00	Street Lights	\$6,000.00
Water Retained Earnings	\$4,150.00	Water Overtime	\$4,150.00
Water Salary	\$2,850.00	Water Overtime	\$2,850.00
Library Salaries	\$3,000.00	Workers Compensation	\$13,100.00
Parks Expense	\$15,000.00	Unemployment	\$18,500.00
Historical Expense	\$2,000.00	Medicare	\$10,000.00
Red Shop Expense	\$1,000.00	Health Insurance	\$6,630.00
Country Retirement	\$7,420.00		
County Tax	\$7,384.00		\$
Health Insurance	\$40,000.00		\$
Park Salary	\$3,000.00		\$
Prior Year Bills	\$350.00		\$
Short Term Interest	\$39,000.00		\$
Ambulance Reserve	\$6,630.00		\$
Reserve Fund	\$30,000.00		\$

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to accept Clause 17E of G.L. c. 59, §5, increasing the amount of the whole estate, real and personal, of certain senior citizens, surviving spouses and minors, as set forth in Clause 17D, annually by an amount equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for such year, and further to see if the Town will vote to accept a provision of G.L. c.59, §5 added by Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1995 for the purpose of increasing the amount of exemptions granted to certain senior citizens and surviving spouses and minors by a percentage up to the annual increase in the cost of living adjustment as determined by the Consumer Price Index and to vote on said percent increase that shall apply, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Assessor

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Hopedale by inserting in Part 1 Administrative Legislation, Chapter 1 General Provisions, a new Article III, Section 1-7 to read as follows:

All municipal charges and bills shall be due and payable within thirty days of the date of notice of said charge or bill unless otherwise specified in said notice of charge or bill. Interest shall accrue, at the rate at which interest may be charged on tax bills under

the provisions of G.L. c.59 §57, as amended, if any such charge or bill remains unpaid after the expiration of thirty days from the date of such charge or bill or such other specified payment

or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Water & Sewer Commissioners

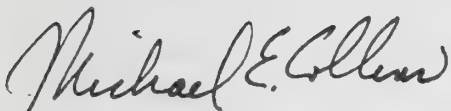
ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to accept that all personnel contracts must end at the end of a fiscal year, or to take any other action related thereto.


Submitted by: Finance Committee

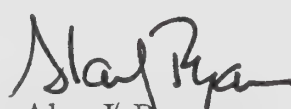
You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the three public places in different parts of the Town not less than fourteen days before the holding of said meeting. Hereof fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 1st day of June 2004

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

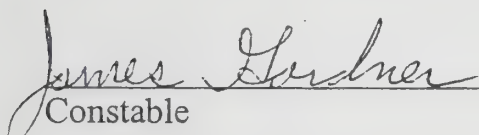

Michael E. Collins

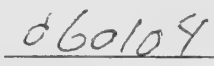

Michael A. Milanoski
Chairman


Alan J. Ryan

A True Copy, ATTEST:  Town Clerk

Posted in the Town Hall, Community House, and Post Office Lobby.


Constable


Date

TOWN OF HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 22, 2004

MINUTES

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs met in the auditorium of the Junior-Senior High School at 7:00 PM. At 7:25 PM Moderator Francis J. Larkin called the meeting to order and declared a quorum (50) present. The annual Town Meeting was called under the authority of the warrant dated April 5, 2004. The Special Town Meeting was called under the authority of the warrant dated June 1, 2004.

The Moderator moved to temporarily adjourn the Annual Town Meeting. The Motion was seconded and voted in the affirmative as declared by Judge Larkin.

The Special Town Meeting was opened at 7:32 PM. A Motion to dispense with the reading of the warrant was made and seconded. A vote was taken and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator. At this time Judge Larkin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Edward Malloy, who served the Town on the Housing Authority for over 40 years. Judge Larkin also introduced Janet Jacaruso, newly elected Town Clerk, and thanked Ronda Ohannesian, former Town Clerk, for her years of service. Selectman Michael Collins spoke next, asking Hopedale citizens to become involved in their local government by sitting on one of Hopedale's many Boards.

Article 1: Selectman Mike Milanoski moved to transfer \$2,287.70 from the following accounts to pay prior year bills:

<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Building Inspector	\$ 152.25
Coordinator	\$ 186.50
Fire Part Time Salaries	\$1,606.95
Ambulance Retainer	\$ 92.00
Fire Retainer	\$ 250.00

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Aspen Publishing	\$ 152.25
Anastas Lock & Safe	\$ 186.50
Fire Fighter Salaries	\$1,606.95
Ambulance Retainer	\$ 92.00
Fire Retainer	\$ 250.00

Motion was seconded and voted unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Article 2: Selectman Mike Milanoski moved to transfer \$974,604.00 from the following accounts to others to adjust the fiscal year 2004 operating budget:

<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Coordinator Expense	\$2,000.00
Town Audit	\$5,000.00
Assessor's Salary	\$5,400.00
Treas/Coll Assistant	\$1,500.00
Tax Title	\$4,000.00
Red Shop Expense	\$1,000.00
Liability Insurance	\$6,000.00
Police Salary	\$61,000.00
Police Expense	\$9,000.00
Dispatch Overtime	\$8,000.00
Veteran's Expense	\$2,800.00
Highway Overtime	\$2,345.00
Library Salaries	\$3,000.00
Historical Expense	\$2,000.00*
Dog Officer	\$2,500.00
Water Retained Earnings	\$8,100.00
Water Salary	\$1,000.00
County Tax	\$7,384.00
Health Insurance	\$50,000.00*
County Retirement	\$7,420.00
Ambulance Reserve	\$6,630.00
Water Retained Earnings	\$35,000.00
Water Retained Earnings	\$55,000.00
Sewer Expense	\$5,500.00
Reserve Fund	\$22,825.00
Free Cash	\$268,000.00
Long Term Interest	\$293,000.00
Overlay Surplus	\$57,000.00
Parks Salaries	\$2,500.00
Short Term Interest	\$39,700.00

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Coordinator Salary	\$3,073.00*
Coord. Part Time Salary	\$3,120.00*
Coord. Other Fringe	\$760.00*
Legal	\$61,000.00
Planning Board Stipends	\$1,500.00
Zoning Board Expense	\$600.00
Town Hall	\$8,750.00

Police Overtime	\$61,000.00
Police Overtime	\$9,000.00
Dispatch Salary	\$8,000.00
Snow & Ice	\$37,702.00
Highway Expense	\$2,345.00
Library Expense	\$3,000.00
Town Detail	\$6,000.00
Street Lights	\$5,500.00
Water Overtime	\$8,100.00
Water Overtime	\$1,000.00
Workers' Compensation	\$6,474.00
Unemployment	\$21,900.00
Highway Salaries	\$5,400.00*
Health Insurance	\$6,630.00
Greene Street Well	\$35,000.00
Water Capital Projects	\$55,000.00
Sewer Salaries	\$5,500.00*
Tree Warden	\$250.00
Stabilization	\$268,000.00
Stabilization	\$293,000.00
Court Judgments	\$57,000.00

Voters held seven line items during the reading of Article 2. Those items are printed in bold type and marked with an asterisk.

A second to accept the line items NOT placed on hold was made. A unanimous vote was made and so declared by the Moderator.

Holds

Merrily Sparling of the Historical Commission moved to transfer \$1,500.00 from the Reserve Fund to Historical Expense to pay for outstanding architect & video transfer bills. The motion was seconded and voted. The ayes carry and the Moderator so declares.

Rich Gleason asked if the \$50,000.00 balance could be put towards FY 2005's health insurance shortfall. Town Accountant Sharon Emerick was given floor privileges and informed the Meeting that these funds cannot be held over. A motion was made & seconded to accept the original line item as written. A vote was taken; the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Ed Burt of the Finance Committee spoke regarding the holds on Coordinator's Salary, Coordinator's Part Time Salary & Coordinator Other Fringe. The Finance Committee put these items on hold to bring attention to the fact that a newly negotiated contract exceeded Town Meeting authorization by \$10,000.00 as well as the Level 12 compensation range. Town Counsel Joyce Frank noted that some contracts are subject to Town Meeting funding. In this case the contract is not subject to Town Meeting funding due to MGL Chapter 41, Section 108n that places authority to negotiate the contract with the Board of Selectmen. Therefore, this contract is binding. After lengthy discussion, a motion was made to uphold the three original figures. A second to transfer the amount of \$3,073.00 to the

Coordinator's Salary Account was heard. A vote was taken; the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator. A second to transfer \$3,120.00 to the Coordinator's Part Time Salary Account was heard. A vote was taken; the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator. A second to transfer \$760.00 to the Coordinator's Other Fringe Account was made. A vote was taken; the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

The holds placed on Highway Salaries and Sewer Salaries related to sick-time buy back upon retirement. Finance Committee Chairman James Carroll explained Hopedale's bylaws prohibit the inclusion of buy-back clauses in Town contracts and that these contracts are subject to Town Meeting funding. Town Coordinator Dan Keyes was granted floor privileges and explained the "good faith" bargaining process and potential cost savings to the Town. Town Counsel Joyce Frank informed the Meeting that collective bargaining prevails over by-laws. James Carroll cautioned funding the first year of these contracts, since doing so automatically funds all years. **After additional discussion, a motion & second to transfer \$5,400.00 to Highway Salaries and \$5,500.00 to Sewer Salaries were heard. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Article 3: Eugene Phillips moved that the Town accept Clause 17E of G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, increasing the amount of the whole estate, real and personal, of certain senior citizens, surviving spouses and minors, as set forth in Clause 17D, annually by an amount equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for such year, and I further move that the Town vote to accept a provision of G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5 added by Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1995 for the purpose of increasing the amount of exemptions granted to certain senior citizens and surviving spouses and minors by a percentage up to the annual increase in the cost of living adjustment as determined by the Consumer Price Index and that the Town vote to apply an increase of 100% of said cost of living adjustment.

Motion was seconded. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 4: Eugene Phillips moved to amend the Code of the Town of Hopedale by inserting in Part 1 Administrative Legislation, Chapter 1 General Provisions, a new Article III, Section 1-7 to read as follows:

All municipal charges and bills shall be due and payable within thirty days of the date of notice of said charge or bill unless otherwise specified in said notice of charge or bill. Interest shall accrue, at the rate at which interest may be charged on tax bills under the provisions of G.L. Chapter 59, Section 57, as amended, if any such charge or bill remains unpaid after the expiration of thirty days from the date of such charge or bill or such other specified payment.

Motion was seconded. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 5: James Carroll made a motion to pass over Article 5 that moved to accept that all personnel contracts must end at the end of a fiscal year, or take any other action related thereto.

Motion to pass over was seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Motion to dissolve the Special Town Meeting Warrant made, seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

RESUME RECONVENED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Meeting called to order.

Article 1: Selectman Mike Milanoski moved to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.

Motion was seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 2: Selectman Mike Milanoski moved, pursuant to GLc.41, section 108 to fix the annual salary and compensation for each elected Town officer and further to see if the Town will vote to fix the annual compensation for special appointed officials for his/her service in fiscal year 2005 as follows:

Town Moderator (1)	\$200.00
Board of Selectmen (3)	\$6,500.00
Town Clerk (1)*	\$23,072.00
Road Commissioners (3)	\$2,200.00
Board of Health (3)	\$1,850.00
Park Commissioners (3)	\$1,600.00
Water/Sewer Commissioners (3)	\$2,200.00
Tree Warden (1)	\$1,000.00
Planning Board (5)	\$3,700.00
Board of Assessors (3) appt.	\$4,100.00
Board of Registrars (3) appt.	\$1,600.00
Clerk to Registrars (1)	\$500.00
Zoning Board of Appeals (5) appt.	\$1,300.00
Finance Committee (9) appt.	\$950.00

*Town Clerk is paid weekly; all others paid twice per year.

Motion was seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 3: Selectman Michael Collins moved to transfer \$109,257.18 from available funds as detailed below.

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>From Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Police Stairs	\$10,800.00	Municipal Alarm	\$504.73
Police Cruiser	\$26,900.00	Town Hall Repairs	
Highway Barn Repairs	\$6,557.18	& Study	\$21,050.00
Highway Sand/Salt Shed	\$65,000.00*	Fire Dept Apron	\$13,000.00*
		Highway Drainage	\$7,120.00
		BOH Fence	\$2,292.00
		Wood Chipper	\$4,815.00
		Statue of Hope	\$9,496.07
		Fire Rescue Boat	\$200.00*
		Cemetery Wall	\$2,250.00
		Hopedale St Drainage	\$15,021.26
		Town Hall Ren. Grant	\$9,150.00
		Public Sfty Comm Sys	\$7,400.00
		Hghwy. Liq Cal Disp	\$1,877.06
		RR Overpass	\$9,000.00
		TC Bylaw Codif.	\$716.64
		Capital Projects	\$5,364.42

Voters held three line items during the reading of Article 3. Those items are printed in bold type and marked with an asterisk.

A second to accept the line items NOT placed on hold was made. A unanimous vote was made and so declared by the Moderator.

Holds

The Highway Sand/Salt Shed was placed on hold by Bob Hampsch who questioned the future location of the building that currently sits on land within the Harmony development. As a point of information Town Coordinator Dan Keyes explained plans to move the structure to a parcel of land just beyond the Highway Barn on Depot Street.

A motion & second to reconsider this line item as originally presented was heard. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

The Fire Station Apron & the Fire Rescue Boat holds were addressed by Rich Gleason and Chief Scott Garland, who was given floor privileges. The apron issue related to the material to be used to construct the apron. Chief Garland felt the use of more-expensive concrete would be a better long-term value as its durability is far superior to tar. The boat may need minimal additional funds to complete. The amount to be transferred to the Fire Boat line item is reduced from \$754.62 to \$200.00. After much discussion the decision was made to incorporate these items in the Fire Station Bond.

Selectman Michael Collins moved to reconsider these amended line items. A second was made and a vote taken. The ayes carried as declared by the Moderator.

Article 4: Selectman Michael Collins moved to pass over this article related to Superior Court Judgments. **A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Article 5: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to transfer and/or raise the sum of \$127,625.82 to offset capital items as listed below:

To Account	Amount
Highway Barn Repairs	\$13,337.82
Highway Int'l w/Plow	\$25,188.00
School Kitchen Floor	\$9,000.00
School Sinks	\$4,100.00
School Chair Lift	\$26,000.00
School Technology	\$15,000.00
School Lease (3 Busses)	\$35,000.00

A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 6: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to amend Town Bylaw XXII-B, The Personnel Administration Bylaw, Section 137-17 to adjust the salaries to be paid by an increase of 3% as shown on the Compensation Plan.

A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 7: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to appropriate \$385,000.00 for the purpose of financing the planning of the Hopedale Storm Water Management Program including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section I of Chapter 29C of the General Laws, as most recently amended by St. 1988, c.78; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$385,000.00 and issue bonds or notes therefore under Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws, as most recently amended by St. 1988, c. 78; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town unless the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C, as most recently amended by St. 1988, c.78; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C, as most recently amended by St. 1988, c. 78; and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; that the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary to carry out the project.

A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 8: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to pass over this article.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 9: Dr. James Morin moved to transfer from the Sewer Enterprise Account to the Capital Projects line the sum of \$60,000.00 to replace approximately 120 feet of sewer main and to replace a 40hp blower unit.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 10: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to pass over this article.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 11: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to pass over this article.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 12: Selectman Alan Ryan moved to pass over this article.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 13: Aldo Tarca moved to raise and appropriate through assessments provided under GLc. 83, Section 16, and to be collected under GLc. 44, Section 53E bond issue payments of \$80,648.85 for the Sewer Department.
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 14: Selectman Michael Collins moved to raise and appropriate \$15,675,896.00 and transfer \$413,661.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings, \$551,585.00 from Water Retained Earnings, \$110,708.00 from Ambulance Receipts Reserve, \$47,790.00 from Cable Access Revolving, and an amount to be transferred during Fiscal Year 2005 approved by the School Committee based upon the number of staff members that participate in the health insurance program related to self funding programs, the budgeted amount to be transferred from the school revolving accounts will be \$102,997.00, to defray Town Charges for Fiscal Year 2005.

Moderator Larkin read the proposed line items:

Town Counsel	\$60,000
Town Moderator	225
Selectmen	12,000
Computer	19,195

Town Coordinator	139,126*
Finance Committee	\$1,875
Reserve Fund	35,000
Accountant	71,900*
Assessors	92,995
Treasurer/Collector	136,175*
Clerk	25,372
Elections	6,814
Registration	3,300
Parking Clerk	1,200
Cable Advisory	47,790*
Conservation Commission	485
Planning Board	4,947
Zoning Board	1,990
Industrial Development Corp	0
Public Building – Town Hall	34,680
Tax Title	6,500
Police	715,742
Public Safety Dispatch	173,919
Fire	442,883*
Ambulance	110,708*
Town Police Detail	6,000
Building Inspector	29,500
Plumbing Inspector	6,500
Electrical Inspector	7,500
Civil Defense	1,100
Dog Officer	6,600
Forestry-Tree Planting	16,200
Forestry-Pest Control	300
Forestry-Dutch Elm	500
Weights & Measures	750
School Department	7,758,123*
Highway	362,482
Snow Removal	54,000
Street Lighting	31,000
Cemetery	2,000
Health Department	425,751*
Council on Aging	48,977
Veterans	7,189
Commission on Disabilities	150
Library	200,763
Parks	67,400*
Red Shop	1,930
Historical Commission	2,850
Memorial Day	300
Cultural Council	4,000

Retirement of Debt: Principal	1,376,601
Interest on Long Term Debt	853,865
Interest on Short Term Debt	40,880
State Assessments	443,114
County Assessment & Tax	298,967
Blackstone Vall. Reg. Sch. Dist.	214,271
Cent. Mass. Reg. Planning Dist.	1,258
Stabilization	
Unemployment Compensation	43,000
Medicare	117,420
Health & Life Insurance	1,328,318
Liability Insurance	120,000
Workers Compensation	32,500
Water	512,745
Sewer	413,661
TOTAL	16,983,286

The following nine line items were placed on hold by various voters: Town Coordinator at \$139,126, Accountant at \$71,900.00, Treasurer/Collector at \$136,175.00, Cable Advisory at \$47,790.00, Fire at \$442,883.00, Ambulance at \$110,708.00, School Department at \$7,758,123.00, Health Department at \$425,751.00 and Parks Department at \$67,400.00.

A motion to vote on the article with the exception of the above-referenced nine holds was made and seconded. A vote was taken & the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator. Judge Larkin thanked Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick from the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District. Dr. Fitzpatrick then thanked the voters of Hopedale for their continued support.

Holds

The Finance Committee held the Town Coordinator Account. Chairman Carroll questioned the increase in salaries. The Coordinator’s Assistant position was increased from 25 to 30 hours per week.

A motion was made & seconded to accept the original figure. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

The Accountant hold related to an increase in salary, which fell outside of the guidelines for a position at level 10. **After much discussion, an amended motion was made by Selectman Michael Milanoski to fund the Accountant’s salary at \$46,240.00 until the Personnel Board returns with updated recommendations to increase this salary. A vote was made and the ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

The Treasurer/Collector hold also related to a salary increase. The increased amount, in this case, falls within the grade 11 range in the Town’s Compensation Plan. **An amended motion was made to fund the line item for only \$109,714. The amendment was seconded and a vote was made. The amendment fails. A motion to vote the original**

figure of \$113,475 was seconded and supported in the affirmative as declared by the Moderator.

The Cable Advisory hold was placed due to an incorrect salary figure. This hold will be revisited upon receipt of additional figures.

Firefighter/EMT Rich Gleason placed the Fire & Ambulance holds.

Eugene Phillips challenges the quorum. A count is taken finding only 47 voters present. Therefore, the Meeting is adjourned until 7:00 PM on June 23, 2004. The Meeting will be held, once again, in the Hopedale Jr.-Sr. High School Auditorium.

Annual Town Meeting resumes at the appointed hour with a quorum present. Moderator Larkin leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rich Gleason offers an amendment to the Fire & Ambulance budgets. He asks for an additional \$27,000 for the Fire Permanent Salaries budget and an additional \$5,000 for the Ambulance Permanent Salaries budget. This additional funding is to be used to hire 2 additional full-time firefighter/EMTs to bring staffing levels back to that of 1982. Mr. Gleason states the “call back” system will be eliminated and those funds along with income generated by the ambulance will cover two salaries and one new member’s benefits. The \$30,000 is needed to send the two new hires to the academy. Selectman Alan Ryan asks that the amendment be withdrawn as this action has not been discussed through proper channels, that being discussions with the Fire Chief, Selectmen & Finance Committee. Finance Committee Chairman Carroll agreed with Selectman Ryan & asks that out of respect for other departments this issue should be addressed at the Committee/Board level before bringing it to Town Meeting. Mr. Gleason asserted his right to bring this before the Town. **A second on the amendment was heard & voted. A request for a standing vote was made. Thirty-three citizens voted in the affirmative and seventeen opposed the amendment. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

The Cable Advisory Board negotiated a new contract in the amount of \$27,410. This addition, as well as all cable expenditures, is funded by income directly received from ComCast.

An amendment to fund this contract at the new figure was made and seconded. A vote was made and the ayes have it unanimously as declared by the Moderator.

Board of Health members Betsy Sales and Robert Moro presented information regarding Health Agent Salaries in towns of similar size to Hopedale. **Mrs. Sales proposed an amendment to the BOH salary budget by requesting an additional \$12,699.00. The motion was seconded and voted. The amendment was defeated. The original motion was seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Mr. Bob Hampsh placed the Parks Department hold. A 13-acre parcel of land located near the intersection of Greene Street and Rockridge Road will be deeded to Hopedale in the near future. Mr. Hampsch would like funding in place to maintain the land. **Mr. Hampsch moved to amend the Parks department budget with an increase of \$4,000. A second was made.** Selectman Michael Collins has been in contact with Eastland Development to gain funds for maintenance. **A vote was made on the amendment, which was defeated. A vote on the original Parks budget of \$67,400 was made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Accountant Sharon Emerick was given floor privileges and moved to correct two line items: Retirement of Debt: Principal should be \$1,331,601 and Interest on Long Term Debt should be \$818,216. The motion was seconded and voted. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

School Committee member Louis Arcudi moved to adjust the School Department budget to \$7,849,123. A second was heard. The Selectmen, Finance Committee, Accountant and School Committee all agreed that this is the correct budget amount. A vote was made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 15: Selectman Michael Collins moved to pass over this article. **A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Article 16: Board of Health Member Betsy Sales moved to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc. 44, §53E1/2 for the purpose of funding a hazardous waste collection day and recycling program to include composting and yard waste and other related costs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the Board of Health to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed \$30,000.00 for the fiscal year 2005. **A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Article 17: Board of Health Member Betsy Sales moved to authorize the continued use of a revolving fund pursuant to GLc. 44, §53E1/2 for the purpose of funding the operating costs of the animal control division of the Hopedale Board of Health, which fund will be credited with receipts for the boarding of stray animals, fines for violations, and the licensing of animals, to be expended under the authority of the Board of Health, such expenditures not to exceed \$10, 000.00 for the fiscal year 2005. **A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.**

Article 18: Selectman Michael Collins moved to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with GLc. 131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2005.

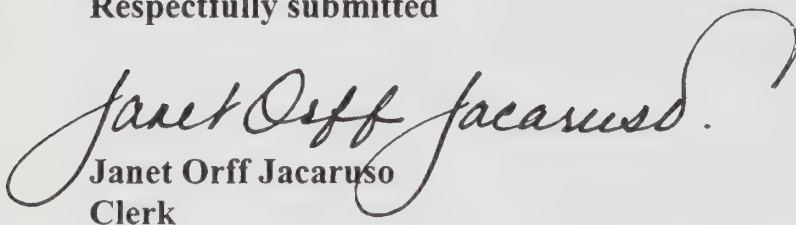
A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

Article 19: Selectman Michael Collins moved to allow the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds for the purpose of proving road paving/improvement projects.

A second was heard and a vote made. The ayes have it as declared by the Moderator.

After closing remarks from Selectman Collins and the Moderator, a motion to dissolve the warrant was made by Eugene Phillips. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted


Janet Orff Jacaruso
Clerk

To the residents of Hopedale:

The accompanying information relates to articles to be voted on at tonight’s Special and Annual Town Meetings. The Special Town Meeting will conduct business related to the current fiscal year, ending June 30th, while the Annual Town Meeting warrant deals with Fiscal Year 2005, beginning on July 1st, 2004.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Article 1: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article allows for the payment of prior year bills totaling approximately \$2,000.

Article 2: Recommendation: Favorable Action
(As amended)

This article would allow the transfer of funds to accounts in deficit from accounts presently having as surplus. Of note is a transfer to the Stabilization Fund from the Debt Service account, the result of savings being realized from the refinancing of some Town debt. Also, it is proposed that funds be transferred to the Stabilization Fund from the Free Cash Account, but most of this money will then be used to pay for capital items under Article 5 of tonight’s Annual Town Meeting.

Article 3: Recommendation: Favorable Action

Article 3 seeks to raise certain exemptions granted to senior citizens by a factor equal to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Article 4: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article changes the wording on the by-laws relating to bill paying and the interest charged for late payments.

Article 5: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article, proposed by the Finance Committee, would require that any personnel contract entered into by the Town would end at the end of a fiscal year. The purpose of this article is to avoid confusion over the funding of contracts that start during the fiscal year.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The most important aspect of tonight's Annual Town Meeting deals with the passage of the operating budget for Town departments. Final State Aid amounts, which fund about half the Town's annual budget, are not known at this time, but final figures are expected to be very close to estimates used in arriving at a balanced budget.

Warrant articles of note include:

Article 3, submitted by the Capital Planning Committee, funds capital item expenditures by transfers from prior year capital item surpluses. These surpluses total about \$120,000, and will be used to purchase, among other items, a new cruiser and a sand and salt shed for the Highway Department.

Under Article 5, added funds are sought for additional capital items. The proposal is to pay for these items with funds available in the Stabilization Fund, which was augmented by the Free Cash transfer made earlier under Special Town Meeting Article 2.

The Stabilization Fund balance, after all of tonight's proposed transfers, will be in excess of \$1 million, an amount that should help in securing a favorable bond rating when the Fire Department renovation and addition work is financed through a long-term bond issue.

Also of note (Article 7) is the planning and construction of the Hopedale Storm Water Management Program, a comprehensive computerized mapping of land parcels, buildings and water system and sewer system infrastructure within Town. Funding, in the amount of \$385,000 is anticipated to be by borrowing, at very favorable rates, through a State agency, the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust.

Specific recommendations and comments for each of the warrant articles are as follows:

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Article 1: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This routine article allows boards or departments the opportunity to present information to the Town Meeting attendees. The Finance Committee plans a brief presentation on an overview of Town finances.

Article 2: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article sets the compensation levels for various Town officials. These remain at FY 2004 levels.

Article 3: Recommendation: Favorable Action

As discussed above, capital surpluses from prior years are used to fund several items.

Article 4: Recommendation: Pass Over

Article 4 funds a court judgement against the Town relating to prior year's compensation for a Police Dept. officer. This was addressed under Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting.

Article 5: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article seeks to use the Stabilization Fund to pay for various capital items, listed in the Warrant. These items total approximately \$144,000.

Article 6: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article would allow for an adjustment to the compensation levels established within Town by-laws. These levels are typically increased annually to compensate for inflation.

Article 7: Recommendation: Favorable Action

Article 7 deals with the funding for the Hopedale Water Management Program, as discussed above. If the anticipated funding interest rate of 2% is realized, the Finance Committee suggests that the town amortize this loan over the longest period available.

Article 8: Recommendation: Pass Over

It is anticipated that the Board of Selectmen will move to Pass Over this article, until more planning, and the appointment of a building committee, are accomplished.

Article 9: Recommendation: Favorable Action

If approved, Article 9 allows the Sewer Dept. to fund \$60,000 worth of improvements by transferring funds from their Enterprise Account.

Article 10: Recommendation: Pass Over

The Fire Chief has decided to withdraw this article.

Articles 11 and 12: Recommendation: Passover

These 2 articles deal with traffic control repairs to be made at the intersection of Route 16 and Hopedale St. These should result in less congestion and improved traffic flow. Expenditures under both articles total \$11,000.

Article 13: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This routine article is the annual authorization by Town Meeting to allow for the payment of bonded sewer system improvements. Funds are collected by assessments on sewer system users.

Article 14: Recommendation: Favorable Action

This article is the budget article for Fiscal Year 2005. (Please refer to the accompanying financial information.)

Article 15: Recommendation: Pass Over

Stabilization Fund transfers have been accomplished earlier tonight. Therefore, no action is required under Article 15.

Articles 16, 17 and 18: Recommendation: Favorable Action

These three articles represent the annual authorization (required by law) to spend funds collected within the Health Department (hazardous waste, recycling, and animal control) and the Conservation Commission (notice posting expenses, etc.)

Article 19: Recommendation: Favorable Action

Article 19 is a routine, annual article that authorizes the Treasurer to borrow funds prior to state reimbursement. These "Chapter 90" funds are for Highway Department paving projects.

Serving the Towns of:

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Hopedale * Mendon
Milford * Millbury
Millville * Northbridge
Sutton * Upton
Uxbridge

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District

65 Pleasant Street
Upton, Massachusetts 01568-1499
(508) 529-7758
Fax # (508) 529-3079
Web site: www.valleytech.k12.ma.us



Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick
Superintendent-Director

2004 Annual Report

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR: During the fiscal year, July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004, the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District received three prestigious national awards, served as a host for recognition as a 2003 Commonwealth Compass School, had 100 percent of our graduating class earn competency determination on the MCAS tests, were visited by one of the top education officials in the country, underwent two extensive and comprehensive reviews by state teams, and were invited to make presentations at the National Principals Leadership Institute and national *High Schools That Work* Annual Staff Development Conference. This was in addition to the normal day-to-day operation of your vocational technical system, which had few interruptions while construction crews worked in and around the campus on our ambitious yet cost effective \$36 million expansion and renovation project.

We have garnered praise and recognition for the impressive achievements of our students, who have embraced the innovative initiatives and practices put in place by dedicated and hard-working teachers, staff, and administrative team members. At Valley Tech, we are committed to meeting the needs of each student to ensure success in an ever-changing global workforce environment. Every taxpayer in our thirteen district member towns should feel a sense of pride that their investment is providing a substantial and measured return. While our accomplishments are satisfying, we strive for higher goals, and recognize fully the need to keep our public well informed.

A WHOLE NEW LOOK: When the 2003-04 school year began, the outside view of Valley Tech had a much different appearance. During the next nine months, sections of the inside and outside of the existing campus changed dramatically. Modifications took place without any significant loss of instructional time due to construction.

The expansion and renovation project, approved timely by all of our district member towns, remains on target. It not only includes the addition of more than 80,000 square feet, but major renovations to the existing forty-year-old facility. Once completed in the fall of 2005, this major endeavor will allow us to add vocational technical programs, gradually increase our student body, and continue to provide a high-quality educational experience for our students.

YOUR SYSTEM IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: Valley Tech captured a “Triple Crown” of national awards during FY04. The National School Change Award is given to systems that during the previous ten years demonstrate significant change and progress in overall structure, programs, initiatives, and student achievement. The award was presented by Fordham University, the American Association of School Administrators, and Pearson Education. Valley Tech earlier was recognized by the AASA with the Leadership for Learning Award and the President’s Technology Award. Valley Tech was the only high school among the six 2004 National School Change Award winners. Valley Tech was one of only three schools in the United States to receive a Leadership for Learning Award and was one of eighteen schools to receive the President’s Technology Award. According to AASA officials, Valley Tech was first school system to receive both national AASA awards in the same year.

In May, Valley Tech was honored to host one of the top officials in the U.S. Department of Education, Mr. Hans Meeder. He is the Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Vocational and Adult Education. He commented that: “Once in a while, you find an island of excellence like Valley Tech.”

In addition to the awards and serving as host for educational leaders from throughout the state as part of its distinction as a 2003 Commonwealth Compass School, the system underwent reviews by the Massachusetts Department of Education Coordinated Program Review committee, the Massachusetts Office of Educational Quality and Accountability, and the New England Association of Schools & Colleges Commission on Technical and Career Institutions.

OUR STUDENTS CONTINUE TO SHINE: The Valley Tech Class of 2004 became the first from any vocational technical high school in the Commonwealth to have 100 percent of its members achieve a passing grade on the state-mandated, high-stakes Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System tests. Valley Tech had the highest passing percentage of any of the 26 vocational technical high schools in the state on the MCAS tests, a graduation requirement.

Once again Valley Tech students brought home plenty of hardware from the SkillsUSA district and state conferences, and three students qualified for the national conference in Kansas City. Valley Tech students earned nineteen medals, including six gold medals, at the districts. At the state level, Valley Tech won seven medals, including three golds.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS: The FY04 total operating budget for the district was \$12,696,530. The Net School Spending requirement for the district was \$8,405,562. This sum was funded through Chapter 70 Aid of \$4,599,841 and Minimum Contribution requirements from the thirteen member towns totaling \$3,805,721.

In the operation portion of the budget, but outside DOE net school spending areas, the district budgeted \$608,351 for transportation costs, \$52,000 for acquisition of fixed assets, and \$383,436 for retiree medical coverage. This was offset by \$285,671 in regional student transportation funds received from the state. In addition to their state-required Minimum Contributions, the member towns supported the school’s operating budget with shared assessments for operations, student transportation, asset acquisition, and retiree medical. Ever mindful of overall municipal fiscal constraints and the state’s

economic status, the district undertook efforts to identify one time revenue sources in order to provide a credit of \$626,500 to offset the towns’ additional assessments.

The FY04 debt obligation for the expansion-renovation project was satisfied through separate assessments allocated among the member towns. Twelve of the thirteen towns are participating in the level-funded scenario designed to assist with long-range budget planning. We are encouraged by recent School Building Assistance legislation that will positively impact our communities. We continue to seek non-taxpayer funds by aggressively pursuing grant opportunities, donations, and alternative sources of income. We once again exceeded the \$1 million mark.

IN MEMORIAM: For four decades, Mr. Matthew Krajewski dedicated his services to the taxpayers of Blackstone and the vocational technical students of the Blackstone Valley as a member of the regional school committee until his death in September 2003. A machinist by trade, Mr. Krajewski had a special ability to blend his knowledge of manufacturing and the transition from the old mills to newer technologies with his practical business perspective. Even at age 84, he sought and won an unprecedented 31st term on the school committee.

“I doubt that anyone will ever be able to match Matt’s length or depth of service,” said Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director. “Matt took pride in his role in making our school system a gem of the Blackstone Valley. Matt’s lifelong advocacy for quality vocational technical education is a wonderful legacy.”

CLASS OF 2004: Blackstone Valley Tech’s 202 graduates included Hopedale’s Anthony J. Bucchino, Jr., Drafting; Bryan M. Felton, Carpentry; Joshua R. Gaffney, Auto Body; Jeremy C. Hanson, Maintenance Repair Service; Athena D. Studer, Culinary Arts, and Nicholas C. Trotta, Electronics.

Respectfully submitted by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee,

E. Kevin Harvey, Bellingham, Chairman
Gerald M. Finn, Millville, Vice Chairman
Daniel L. Baker, Uxbridge, Secretary
Michael D. Peterson, Mendon, Asst. Treasurer
William J. Pontes, Blackstone
John C. Lavin, III , Douglas
Anthony M. Yitts, Grafton
Robert S. Metcalf, Hopedale

Arthur E. Morin, Jr., Milford
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr., Millbury
Joan A. Gautreau, Northbridge
Mitchell A. Intinarelli, Sutton
Kenneth M. Pedersen, Jr., Upton
Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick,
Superintendent-Director

Please Note: This condensed report is provided at the request of municipal authorities. A more detailed report is available from the Office of the Superintendent-Director, Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District, 65 Pleasant St., Upton, MA 01568-1499.



Office of
BOARD OF HEALTH
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
(508) 634-2203 ext. 22

The board of Health submits it's annual report to the Board of Selectman and all of the citizens in the town of Hopedale for the year ending June 30, 2003.

Once again the Board of Health found itself inundated with a variety of requests and duties. The continued commercial building boom that requires new septic plan review and soil test is added to an already heavy workload.

The 3 member elected board: Peter B. Mitchell, Elizabeth A. Sales and Robert Moro grants variances, holds hearings on non-compliance orders, issues fines and promulgates Board of Health Regulations and policies. The Board holds meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The Board of Health's responsibilities continues to be all encompassing and ever expanding.

It is our responsibility to enforce all public health regulations related to the State Sanitary Health Codes, State and Federal and enforce any local regulations promulgated by the Board of Health members.

The main issues we deal with on a day-to-day basis include septic design and installations, housing complaints, trash and nuisance complaints, food establishments, odor and noise complaints and beach water quality. We also investigate rabies issues, asbestos and lead paint concerns, food borne illness including communicable and other infectious diseases. West Nile Virus concerns and issue burial permits. The board conducts health clinics in conjunction with the Visiting Nurses. We issue licenses for all installers, well permits, camp permits and answer other issues remotely connected to public health, issue tobacco licenses and conduct compliance checks on establishments that sell tobacco products.

Once again the Board of Health sponsored the annual Flu Clinic, which was conducted by the Visiting Nurses Association of the Grater Milford-Northbridge area. The Visiting Nurses did an outstanding job. We also conducted our annual rabies clinic in conjunction with Dr. Richard Heller.

The board has also seen an increase in the number of complaints regarding coyotes. Residents need to be aware that coyotes are seeking sources of food because they are faced with decreasing habitat due to the building in the surrounding area. Make your property less attractive and avoid having problems with them, here are some basic steps to follow Don't feed them, don't leave pet food outdoors, don't approach or try to pet coyotes, secure your garbage, secure our pets don't let them roam free. If you see one in your yard make loud noises (whistles, air horns, yell), use bright lights, throw objects or spray them with a hose. Report threats immediately to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 508 835 3607.

Health Agent Leonard A. Izzo has received many grants in the past with a total over \$85,000 for the Board of Health. Some of the grants are for recycling, clean air act; the most recent is for Anti-Terrorism.

As times changes and we move into the future the board feels that we are impacted on various levels of Public Health issues. Because of the State budget cuts and new regulations that are promulgated and old regulations are amended, State agencies place more burdens on towns without resources to fund these programs.

Some people think that all a Board of Health is responsible for is restaurant inspections and some think we only handle septic systems. The Board of Health handles a myriad of issues such as housing, water quality, trash, septic, air quality, nuisances, food safety, bathing beaches, recreational camps among many other public health issues. The field of public health is fraught with frustration and stress; but there is also the sense of accomplishments in knowing that we are doing our best to protect the health and welfare of the Town of Hopedale.

We take our charge very seriously in an attempt to enforce the regulations we are empowered to administer. Sometimes things may not always work smoothly or as quickly as you, or we may like. Please know that we are working towards our mutual goal that is to protect you the citizens of Hopedale.

Peter B. Mitchell, Elizabeth W. Sales and Robert Moro all will be attending a Board of Health certification program sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health.

In a continued effort to keep up with the many changes in the public health field, Health Agent Leonard A. Izzo has been attending courses and has been receiving various certifications.

Everyone believes that his/her situation is of the utmost importance but unfortunately we are forced to prioritize on a daily basis. This office has only one employee on a daily basis. I make every effort to do my best to answer all questions and resolve problems and enforce the regulations that we are empowered to administer.

Respectfully submitted:
Leonard A. Izzo
Health Agent



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 X15 Fax: 508-634-2200

E-mail: jjacaruso.hopedale@comcast.net

Town Clerk
Janet Orff Jacaruso

June 30, 2004

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Hopedale:

I submit this report of the Office of Town Clerk for Fiscal Year 2004.

My tenure in this office began on May 18, 2004 after a competitive campaign which culminated at the May 11 Annual Town Election. I am honored to follow Frank Dewing, D.A. Westcott, William H. Jordan, Frank Edmands, Clarence E. Arnold, Mortimer C. Dennett, Robert S. Phillips, Mary L. Draper, Barbara Kochon, and Ronda Ohannesian in this unique position. This Office is guided by the General Laws of the Commonwealth and the by-laws and regulations of the Town. Most interaction on the State level is with the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office, the Department of Revenue and the Massachusetts Registry of Vital Records & Statistics. My most important interactions, however, are those with the residents of Hopedale. I pledge that you will always be served in a professional, friendly and efficient manner. All requests are processed in a timely fashion during business hours or during appointments for the public's convenience.

The following 2003 events were registered in the Town's records as well as with the Registry of Vital Records & Statistics: sixty-five (65) births, fifty-seven (57) deaths, and nine (9) marriages.

Two-hundred-thirty-six (236) dogs were licensed in 2003. The "Animal Tracks" registration system is in place and has made processing these applications less time-consuming and more accurate.

The Massachusetts Town Clerk's Association Conferences provide a great deal of information regarding processes, procedures, legal requirements, and reporting practices. I am appreciative of the opportunity to attend these meetings.

The Clerk's Office continues to participate in the Elder Tax Credit Program. Dr. Florence Ames, Mrs. Claire Turner and Mrs. Cynthia Zacchilli play an invaluable role in the smooth workings of the office. Mrs. Turner and Dr. Ames will be completing an important preservation of vital records project this year. I would like to thank Cynthia Zacchilli, especially, for her generosity and good humor in sharing her knowledge with this new Town Clerk. Her instruction and guidance ensured a smooth transition in May.

Respectfully,

Janet Orff Jacaruso

**TOWN OF HOPEDALE
2004 ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

This past year was a very busy and productive one for the Board of Selectmen. We continued to receive excellent support from the various department personnel in town, as well as the people we report to, the residents of Hopedale. We especially thank the many individuals in town who have volunteered their valuable time as appointed members of various committees. Without all these many dedicated individuals the Town of Hopedale would not continue to be one of the most desirable places in which to live in the Commonwealth.

We were forced by the state of the economy to continue to practice fiscal restraint at all department levels due to the limited additional financial support available from the state to Hopedale. We also strive to minimize any increased tax burden on the residents however, out of control Health Insurance and Energy Costs take an ever-increasing portion of the town budget

We are especially grateful to several departments for obtaining grants from several sources. The grants received by the Fire, Police, Library, and Highway Departments grants come to mind just to name a few.

We continue to lose experienced Police, Fire, and Town Hall employees to larger towns who can afford to pay much more than Hopedale. The Personnel Committee was re-activated with the specific purpose of evaluating Hopedale's salary ranges in comparison to other towns with approximately the same number of residents and budget dollars.

The Fire Station has undergone a major renovation while the Police Station required some minor renovation. In addition a major renovation of Town Hall is still in the planning stages and before it is started we must rely on considerable funding from outside sources.

The Chair, representing the Board Of Selectmen, was a member of the new superintendent search committee that, after a process, which took several months, resulted in the hiring of Dr. Patricia Ruane whom we welcome into the Hopedale Community.

Hopedale instituted a Storm Water Management Program within the guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency. This project will put us in compliance with state requirements.

The residents of Hopedale at the town meeting, based on a request by the Police Chief and supported by the Police Union, reversed a prior town's approval of Civil Service. This will enable the Police Department to fill vacancies more timely.

After lengthy negotiations, new contracts were completed for the Police Chief, Fire Department, Clerical, Highway, and Water /Sewer department personnel.

The Board of Selectmen thanks the residents of Hopedale for their continued support and solicits their participation on the town boards where there are vacancies.



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

P.O. BOX 7
78 HOPEDALE STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747

BUILDING DEPT.
TEL.: (508) 634-2206

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

ZONING DEPT.
FAX (508) 634-2200

FISCAL YEAR 2004

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Hopedale, I hereby submit the report of the Building / Zoning Department for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2004.

The Building /Zoning Department consists of: Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Michael Tusino (dept. head); Electrical Inspector, Joseph Scanzaroli; Plumbing and Gas Inspector, John Fontana, and Assistant Building Inspector Michael Giampietro.

This years Building Department report is dedicated to Mr. Albert Shimkus. Mr. Shimkus or "AL" as we all new him, served as our electrical inspector for 42 years (1961-2003) Al's professionalism, knowledge, and courtesy shall be greatly missed throughout town.

The Estimated cost of construction throughout town was \$ 14,512,860.

The following is a breakdown of departmental activity:

Building Permits were issued as follows:

Single Family Dwellings	23	Residential Additions	29
Residential Renovations	44	Tenant Fit Up	1
Decks	12	Sheds	16
In Ground Pools	6	Above Ground Pools	8
Roofing	24	Wood Stoves	4
Garages	5	Signs	1
Certificate of Inspection	18	Zoning Permits	1
Commercial Buildings	6	Commercial Addit./Ren.	2

Building Inspections:	396	Building Permits:	199	Permit Fees:	\$106,737.60
Electrical Inspections:	291	Electrical Permits:	149	Permit Fees:	\$9,780.00
Plumbing Inspections:	204	Plumbing Permits:	91	Permit Fees:	\$6,446.00
Gas Inspections:	80	Gas Permit:	52	Permit Fees:	\$2,233.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael A. Tusino

Michael A. Tusino
Building Commissioner/
Zoning Enforcement Officer

HOPEDALE CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS AN APPOINTED BOARD THAT OVERSEES THE OPERATIONS OF THE LOCAL CABLE OFFICE AND ALL LOCAL CABLE PROGRAMMING THAT IS PRODUCED. HERE. WE ARE FUNDED THROUGH COMCAST, THE LOCAL CABLE PROVIDER. WE RECEIVE OUR MONEY EACH YEAR THROUGH A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT THAT IS BASED ON LOCAL CABLE USAGE. THIS MONEY IS USED EACH YEAR SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSES OF PRODUCING LOCAL PROGRAMMING. ALL SALARIES, EQUIPMENT, OFFICE FEES ETC. ARE FUNDED THROUGH THIS ACCOUNT AT NO, COST TO RESIDENTS OF HOPEDALE

THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:

HARRY MURPHY, CHAIRMAN

KEVIN ROZAK, VICE CHAIRMAN

JEANNE KINNEY, SECERATARY

MARY COCKROFT, TREASURER

THE COMMITTEE IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS AS WELL AS VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST WITH LOCAL PRODUCTIONS OR TO PRESENT IDEAS FOR NEW PROGRAMMING. ALL LOCAL PRODUCTIONS WILL BE PRODUCED IN THE LOCAL CABLE OFFICE WHICH IS LOCATED IN THE UPPER LEVEL OF TOWN HALL. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN ASSISTING WITH OR PRODUCING THEIR OWN SHOW, PLEASE CONTACT THE CABLE OFFICE AT 508-634-2203, EXT23. CABLE PRODUCER ARTIE MAGGIORE WILL TRAIN OR ASSIST IN ALL PRODUCTIONS. ARTIE IS ALSO IN THE STUDIO DURING THE HOURS OF 11AM TO 3:30PM MON.-THURS OR BY APPOINTMENT.



HOPEDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS 01747

To: Lisa Pedroli

From: Jennifer Carlino, Hopedale Conservation Commission *Je*

RE: Town Report FY04

Date: September 13, 2004

The Hopedale Conservation Commission is a five-member board of volunteers to administer and enforce the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40) its implementing Regulations (310 CMR 10.00), and the DEP Policy for Stormwater Management. At this time, the Conservation Commission only has three members appointed. Jennifer Carlino, Curtis Clark and Roy Nutting comprise the Commission. The Conservation Commission reviews proposals for compliance with the environmental regulations and issues wetland permits. Applicants are permitted to perform their work activities as long as they adhere to the conditions of the wetlands permit. During the last year, the Commission issued 2 Requests for Determination of Applicability, 7 Orders of Conditions, 1 Extension Permit, 1 Modification, 6 Certificates of Compliance, 2 Enforcement Orders, 1 Appeal to the Department of Environmental Protection for a Superceding Order of Conditions, and 1 Amended Order of Conditions.

The Conservation Commission negotiated the Town of Hopedale's first Conservation Restriction with Fran Marcoux, developer of the Plain Street Industrial Park. The Conservation Restriction permanently protects 12.2 acres of land along the Mill River from development or clearing of any vegetation. The Conservation Restriction is recorded at the Registry of Deeds. The preservation of the forest along the Mill River maintains the healthy water quality and provides wildlife habitat for a number of species that utilize wetland and upland habitats. The Conservation Commission would like to thank Fran Marcoux for his dedication to preserving open space in Hopedale.

There are two vacancies for the Conservation Commission. If anyone is interested in serving on the Conservation Commission they are encouraged to attend one of our regular meetings and submit a Talent Bank Form to the Selectmen's Office. The Commission meets every second and fourth Wednesday in the Town Hall at 7:45PM. All are invited to attend.

HOPEDALE COUNCIL ON AGING
43 HOPE STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747
(508)634-2208

Annual Report

July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

The Council on Aging's mission is to work to meet the needs of residents age sixty (60) and older by providing opportunities for education, recreation and access to services. Hopedale's elder population comprises eighteen (18) percent of the town's total population. The Council, acts as a unified body and represents the interests of this diverse group of residents.

Our core service programs are local and out-of-town medical transportation, the delivery of meals through "The Meals on Wheels Program", enrollment in the federal Fuel Assistance program and the state's Prescription Advantage Pharmacy Plan and crisis assistance for elders and their caregivers. The Council on Aging is the gateway to the elder services network. We provide counseling and referral for an array of elder issues, services and programs. During the past year we serviced over two thousands (2000) calls from seniors, their children and local aging agencies. The predominant topics on which seniors seek information are healthcare insurance, Medicare, prescription drug insurance coverage, housing, real estate taxes and caregiver support. Over the past year we have seen a marked increase in the number of adult children seeking information regarding services for their aging parents. In the future, the COA will target more programs towards meeting the needs of adult children who serve as caregivers.

The Council on Aging is very proud of its four (4) year collaboration with the Milford COA and the Blackstone Valley Consortium of COAs to provide local and out of town medical transportation services to seniors. Transportation services remain among the most critical of seniors' needs. In FY'2004 we provided one hundred (100) trips (medical/local) for seniors with no means of transportation. We continue to see a need to expand transportation services to enable the Sr. Center to transport seniors to various programs for socialization and congregate meals. We believe that the "collaborative" nature of our transportation services will give us favorable advantage in obtaining increased "transportation" dollars since state grants for transportation favor this type of endeavor. It is important to note that our grocery, personal and mall shopping transportation is conducted in cooperation with the Hopedale School System. The District provides the COA with school buses and drivers at a nominal fee.

We regularly, provide seniors with monthly opportunities for social, cultural, medical and legal programs. A noteworthy program that began this past year was the formation of "Hugs from Hopedale". Our talented group of women knit, crochet and sew blankets, hats and mittens for pediatric and geriatric facilities throughout the state. The group was given a commendation by Senator Moore. Additionally, the Council on Aging has developed strong relationships and joint programming with the Hopedale Schools, Fire and Police Departments, the Girl Scouts and Draper Place, a local Assisted Living Facility.

The COA completed the eleventh year of the Senior Tax Credit Program. This highly successful program enables seniors age sixty (60) and over, who own property in Hopedale, to obtain a tax credit in exchange for work in various town departments. This past year, the town voted to raise the credit from \$500.00 to \$750.00 for one hundred and eleven (111) hours of work. In 2004, the program had seventeen (17) participants. Hopedale benefits greatly from our senior employees. Many who participate in the program go on to volunteer their services to the town long after the completion of their required hours.


Over the past five (5) years, the Council on Aging Board has maintained a dialogue with the selectmen in which we have outlined our need for more appropriate and functional space. For over thirty (30) years, the gift of the "Sr. Room" by The Community House to the town of Hopedale has been quite generous. However, time has dramatically changed the mission of the COA. A single room with no differentiated office space for privacy, the lack of handicapped accessibility beyond the first floor of the building and the Community Houses' own growing schedule of activities are major reasons to consider building a free-standing senior center. In the coming year, the COA will launch a campaign to increase town-wide awareness on this issue. A committee of volunteers will be formed to address feasibility and site considerations.

A growing area of responsibility for the Council on Aging is handling the Federal Fuel Assistance program for the town of Hopedale. We are currently serving more non-elders than elders. The people who seek our assistance are among the most indigent in town. We are the only town-wide human service agency. Therefore, we not only address their fuel needs but issues of food assistance and housing as well.

In conclusion, I want to say thank you to my staff assistant, Tootsie Deletti. Her dedication and patience are remarkable. Both Tootsie and I could not function without our wonderful unpaid staff, our sixty-one (61) volunteers. We eagerly welcome anyone who has a desire to volunteer his or her services. And lastly, to all of the Council on Aging board members thank you for your time and support throughout the year.

The current Council on Aging Board Members are:

Chairwoman	Claudette Hughes
Vice Chairwoman	Pat Johnson
Secretary	Barbara Delphos
Members	
	Liz Bartolet
	Ed Holland
	Virginia Potty
	Julia Manning

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Mullen
Director

Hopedale Cultural Council

Annual Report for 2003-2004

The Massachusetts Cultural Council allocated \$2,000 for local aid to the arts, humanities and interpretative science. The local council received twenty two grant applications and awarded the following:

LCC Applicant:	Project Title	Amount
Audio Journal, Inc	Cultural Calendar	\$250
Bancroft Memorial Library:	Visit from Higgins Armory	\$150
Blackstone Valley Heritage Homecoming	River Bend Farm Concerts	\$200
Claffin Hill Music	Claffin Hill Concert Series	\$500
Hopedale Memorial School	School wide enrichment program	\$300
Milford Performing Arts	Boars Head Festival	\$200
John Root	Senior Citizen Concert	\$400
Total Approved Grant Amount for Hopedale Cultural Council		\$2,000
Total		\$2,000

The Town allocated \$3,800, which enabled the Cultural Council to organize the Wednesday night summer band concerts. There were eight performances in the series; refreshments concessions were offered by local organizations.

The Annual Day in the Park festival was held on Saturday September 20th 2003 at the Town Park. Live music and entertainment, adult fine art show, craft booths, a one-mile road race for children, games and food concessions provided fun for all ages.

A scholarship of \$250 was awarded to a graduating Hopedale High School student class of 2003

A student Art Show for ages 3 –18yrs was held at the Community House on December 5-6, 2003, which had, 130 pieces of art exhibited.

The council wishes to extend an invitation to members of the community who are interested in promoting our activities to join the council.

Respectfully Submitted
Dorothy Suszanska, LCC Chairperson
November 17, 2004.



Kate Nolan Co Chair; Ellen Murphy Treasurer; Sally Decelles Secretary;
Joanne Andreotti; Ann LaBrode; Wilma Manning; Ann-Marie Lockwood;
Virginia Larkin; Patty Samalis

Hopedale Fire Department

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2004

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Hopedale Fire Department hereby submits its Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. This report includes fire and emergency medical service (EMS) responses as well as the activities of the fire prevention office.

Emergency Responses

While requests for emergency assistance dropped 9% overall from 2002, calendar year 2003 realized over \$475,000 in property loss from fire damage. In addition, two structures incurred over \$400,000 damage resulting from structural collapse due to a heavy snow load in the Spring of 2004. Eight Hopedale firefighters were injured during the year including two that were electrocuted at a structure fire in Milford when their aluminum ground ladder came in contact with overhead power lines. The men spent the night at Milford Hospital for observation and both were able to return to work several days later. Four other firefighters were treated at Milford Hospital after being exposed and suffering the effects of chemical exposure while fighting a structure fire in the Town of Bellingham. One firefighter suffered burns to the neck and ears at a five alarm structure fire that occurred on April 23, 2003 at 8-10 Hope Street. This blaze destroyed two dwelling units and damaged one other at 12 Hope Street. Firefighters were hampered by low water pressure and water had to be pumped from both the Mill River and from Hopedale Pond. The cause of this \$400,000 fire was a faulty exterior light fixture, but a delay in giving the alarm resulted in the fire gaining such headway as to make it impossible to overcome.

Another structure fire at 10 Moore Road on May 17, 2003 resulted in a loss greater than \$55,000. The basement fire began in an electrical appliance while the homeowner was at home and due to the on-duty firefighters being committed to a medical emergency there was somewhat of a delay in getting the first engine to the scene. The home was uninhabitable for nearly a year afterward.

A major structural collapse occurred at Incase, Inc. at 50 Mellon Street nearly crushing seven employees working inside. The collapse was resultant of an extraordinary snow load, exceeding ten feet in some areas following the snowstorm of February 17-18, 2003. One employee received a crushing injury to her hand while escaping the 9,000 square foot building. Due to the severity of the collapse the District 14 Confined Space Rescue Team was deployed to search for any victims. Damage was placed at over \$400,000. A second collapse occurred at a residence at 32 Prospect Street resulting in no injuries, but causing over \$10,000 in damage.

During the year four civilians received burn injuries at structural fires in the community and one civilian was rescued from his burning building in Milford. Hopedale firefighters assigned to a primary search at a structure fire on Forrest Street in that town discovered an occupant of the dwelling unaware of the severe fire that was ongoing. In total the department responded to fifteen structure fires and provided extended station coverage during three winter storms.

Personnel

The department welcomed the promotion of Patrick Evans from the Call Department to the permanent staff. FF/EMT Evans is a Hopedale resident and a recent graduate of the Hopedale school system. FF/EMT William Collins requested and was granted a lateral transfer to the Milford Fire Department creating a vacancy on the permanent staff that will be filled during FY2005. Annual Town Meetings voters approved the addition of two full-time Firefighter/EMT's, bringing the permanent staffing to eight Firefighter/EMT's and the Fire Chief. Inter-department appointments included David McMorro as Fire Investigator and Fire Inspector, Thomas M. Daige as Fire Instructor, Richard Gleason, Jr. as Maintenance Officer, and Patrick Evans as S.A.F.E. Officer. Paul Barry serves as the department's Infection Control Officer. All firefighters participate in a minimum of four hours training per month whether they are on duty or participate in Wednesday night training sessions. EMS Director Mark Bucchino continues to provide valuable service both in regards to his knowledge and experience in the EMS field and also with his technological capabilities.

Emergency Responses

EMS responses: 588 (13% decrease from calendar year 2002)
Fire responses: 315 (0% change from calendar year 2002)
Total Responses 2003: 903 (9% decrease under 2002)
Mutual Aid Responses: 27 Received from other communities
50 Given to other communities

Fire Prevention Office

Permits issued: 359 (348 in 2002, 355 in 2001, 342 in 2000, 297 in FY99)
Associated activities: 699 (752 in 2002, 347 in 2001, 310 in 2000, 303 in FY99)
>includes investigation of complaints, violations issued, fire drills conducted, fire alarm tests, building inspections, building plan reviews, fire safety classes, etc.

Fees Collected and turned over to the Town Treasurer FY2004

Fire Prevention Office: \$4,391.00 (\$5,573.00 in FY2003)
Hazardous Materials Incident Reimbursements: \$ 0 (\$0 in FY2003)
Fire Incident Reimbursement: \$150.00 (\$0 in FY2003)
Fire Alarm Service Fee Collected: \$4,125.00 (\$3,750 in FY2003)
Ambulance transportation receipts: \$135,096.18 (\$136,466.48 in FY2003)

Total Fees Turned Over to the Town: \$143,762.18 (\$150,019.48 in FY2003)

Ambulance Service ALS Expense and Billing Fee: \$9,771.85 (\$8,691.41 in FY2003)
Ambulance Service Expense FY2002: \$143,395.00 (includes 4th and final lease payment for new ambulance and health insurance cost for (1) full-time employee)

Grants Received:

Rural Fire Protection/DEM: \$2,000 for forest fire equipment

Student Awareness of Fire Education/Comm. of Mass.: \$750 for fire prevention supplies and presentations

Exec. Office of Public Safety (defibrillators): \$3,400 value

Total Grant Awards FY2004: \$2,750 plus two defibrillators

Fire Station Renovation and Addition Project Ongoing

Demolition of the interior components of the fire station were ongoing at the beginning of FY2004 (July 1, 2003). Contaminated soil encountered during the excavation for the two-bay addition was remediated under the direction of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Additional contaminated soil will have to be removed during FY2005. Special Town Meeting in June 2004 approved \$12,450 be taken from the Ambulance Revenues Account to fund an assessment study and corrective action plan according to DEP guidelines.

In June 2003 the fire department operations were moved from the police station and highway barn to the fire station facility. Apparatus was stored in the station during the renovation and the business office was located in a temporary trailer at the rear of the facility.

Completion of the two-bay addition was accomplished approximately three months behind schedule and the renovation of the existing building also experienced delays causing some disconcerting moments administratively but never affecting emergency services. With the original completion date of May 30, 2004 not met, the Board of Selectmen granted a two-month time extension to Weststar Associates, Inc. (the general contractor), requiring Weststar meet substantial completion by August 3, 2004.

Our department is extremely grateful for the generous donations received thus far towards the renovation project. Significant donations of equipment and labor have been received from B&J Electric, Inc., Mr. Fran Marcoux, Braun's Express, Frank's Appliance, Inc., Howe's Welding, Inc., Hopedale Call Firefighters Association, Hopedale Firefighters Association, EMC Corporation, and Mr. David Carchio. The permanent firefighter staff has worked very hard to bring the project to fruition. Every day finds the staff performing tasks at the station that are resulting in an extraordinary product, a valuable capital asset to the community.

To date, the quality of workmanship and visible end product appears to be everything the town could have expected and perhaps more in regards to the quality of detail and preservation of the historical character of the structure. Certainly the upgrade of utility components is exceptional and the building is now a safe place to work and sleep, providing the firefighters a modern, comfortable, and technically functional facility.


EMS Service

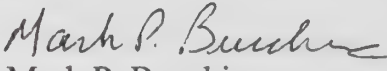
The EMS service provided 588 emergency ambulance responses during calendar year 2003. Of this total 188 persons were provided Advanced Life Support (ALS) by one of the ALS teams assisting our department, including the Milford-Whitinsville Regional Hospital Paramedics, American Medical Response, Pathways, and the Town of Mendon Fire Department Paramedic Service. Hopedale EMS received an excellent score during its bi-annual state ambulance inspection. Due to its' age and the ongoing maintenance issues Rescue 1 was discontinued as a Class V ambulance. Hopedale EMS provides the services of a Type III Class 1 modular ambulance purchased in 2001 through the collection of ambulance fees. Reduction in Medicare payment rates has resulted in lost revenue to the point where the ambulance operated at a deficit of \$18,070.67 in FY2004. The service begins FY2005 with a revenue account at approximately \$115,000. Revenue from fees should realize \$130,000 in FY2005 and total expenses should be in the \$120,000 range. Therefore, it is estimated that the ambulance service should continue to operate in the black for the next five years or so.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of all the members of the Hopedale Fire Department we would like to take this opportunity to thank the various Boards, Commissions, and other town departments that we have worked with over the past year. The positive relationship between all departments is a true asset to the community. Most importantly, we wish to recognize and thank the citizens of Hopedale for their ongoing support and the financial backing of our Department. Because you continue to believe in us we are able to bring top-level emergency service to you and your loved ones.

Respectfully submitted,


Scott D. Garland
Fire Chief


Mark P. Bucchino
EMS Coordinator

Hopedale Fire Department Roster 2003-2004

Scott D. Garland, Fire Chief

(Vacant), Deputy Chief

Mark P. Bucchino, EMS Director

Reverend Christopher Dodge, Chaplain

Jay Appell, Videographer

Permanent Firefighter/EMT's

Mark A. Carron*
Paul D. Barry
Thomas M. Daige
Patrick W. Evans (appointed 5/3/2004)

David J. McMorro
Richard J. Gleason, Jr.
William T. Collins*

Call Firefighters

James S. MacLean, Captain

Engine Company #4

Daniel H. Lopez, Lieutenant/EMT
Robert M. Malnati*, Sr., Private
Mark Marcotte, Private
Leslie N. Fosburgh, Private/EMT
Mario Sousa*, Private (LA)

Engine Company #3

Patrick W. Evans*, Lieutenant/EMT
Harold V. Murphy, Private/EMT
Donald K. Mailing, Private/EMT
Ryan T. Jenkins, Private
Dawn MacLean*, Substitute
Geoffrey Hooper*, Private (LA)
Thomas M. Parente*, Private

Ladder Company #1

Vernon D. Gross, Lieutenant/EMT
Christopher P. Biuso*, Private/EMT
Michael Ciaramicoli, Private
Andrew Buksar III*, Substitute/EMT
David W. O'Donnell*, Private

Paul D. Grindle, Private (LA)
Robert M. Malnati, Jr.*
Michael Goncalves, Substitute

(LA) currently on a Leave of Absence
*did not serve a full year

Hopedale Local Emergency Management

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2004

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Hopedale Local Emergency Management (LEM) hereby submits its Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. This report includes local emergency management activities formerly known as Civil Defense.

Emergency Operations

Twice during the previous year the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was opened at the police station due to severe weather conditions, specifically during the winter storms of December 6-7, 2003 and the President's Day storm of February 17-18, 2004. Represented at various times at the EOC were members of the Board of Selectmen, Police, Fire, and Highway Departments, Emergency Medical Services, Board of Health, and the Council of Aging. Prior to each storm the volunteer staff reviewed the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and updated the Persons at Risk List, contacting dozens of town residents considered vulnerable in emergency situations. At no time was there a need to open the town's emergency shelter at Memorial School. Staffing levels of police, fire, and highway workers were monitored based on changing weather conditions and staff reassured our capability to call on outside resources should they be needed.

Staffing

Hopedale LEM is staffed by a volunteer group consisting of members of police, fire, EMS, and the Council on Aging. A grant received during FY2004 allows us to organize a formal volunteer staff known as the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT). This team, consisting of dedicated and professional community volunteers will maintain the Persons at Risk List, organize and prepare the community's emergency shelter and equipment, man the EOC as needed, respond to major incidents both on a local and regional basis, and operate appropriate emergency equipment in support of local police, fire, and highway departments. Fire Chief Scott Garland serves as Director with EMS Director Mark Bucchino and Detective Richard Mank as Deputy Directors. Members of CERT are Council on Aging Director Carole Mullen, Thomas Beder, Felix Sola, Michelle Chiacchia, Mario Sousa, and Ronda Ohannesian.

Grants Received:

Federal All Hazards Award: \$1,500

Citizen's Emergency Response Team (CERT): \$1,000

Local Emergency Preparedness Award: \$12,820


Total Grant Awards FY2004: \$15,320


New Emergency Operations Center Now in Service

With the re-opening of the renovated fire station LEM now has a permanent home. For many years the EOC was managed out of the old fire station and more recently in the break room at the police station. LEM is now managed on the lower level of the fire station complete with a business office, bathrooms, and an Emergency Operations Center/Training Room. The facility is handicap accessible and meets federal standards for structural integrity. Fully sprinklered and equipped with technological improvements including high speed internet, broadcast capable cable television, efficiency kitchen, air conditioning, air quality monitoring and air purge system, emergency power, and modern office furniture, the facility is prepared to meet the needs of LEM for many years to come. Generous donations from EMC Corporation, the Hopedale Fire Fighters Association and surplus office equipment obtained through FEMA have enabled us to outfit the EOC to meet the needs of multi-agency functionality. The facility will also be equipped with remote radios providing interoperable communications of police, fire, highway, regional fire and EMS, as well as the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Radio consoles donated by the Worcester Police Department are being reinstalled to house the radio equipment.

Residents interested in assisting with LEM and CERT should contact us at 508-473-1050.

Respectfully submitted,


Scott D. Garland
Fire Chief/LEM


Mark P. Bucchino
EMS Coordinator/Deputy LEM

Hopedale Historical Commission Annual Report

The members of the Hopedale Historical Commission have provided several opportunities for Hopedale residents and visitors to gain a greater understanding of the historic significance of Hopedale.

With the assistance of National Park Service Rangers from the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor Commission, the history of Hopedale was described on the hay wagon rides at the annual Day in the Park event last September. The Friends of Historic Hopedale held a unique fundraiser by providing bag lunches for attendees to enjoy by the banks of the Hopedale Pond. The Red Shop was open for tours during the day with more than 100 visitors learning about the history of Draper looms.

The Historical Commission wrote and supported a Massachusetts Preservation Projects Grant for the restoration of the "Little Red Shop". The Friends of Historic Hopedale and the Hopedale Charitable Foundation made generous donations to support the costs of that project. Unfortunately, the grant was not awarded in November 2003. With more than 50 applicants for grants, only twelve communities or projects received support and then at a minimum level. The total allocated in the Massachusetts Historical Commission budget for that grant round was about \$500,000. The Hopedale Historical Commission will submit another grant application in Round XI in 2004. The Commission is continuously searching for additional grants to support the restoration of the Red Shop, the Draper plant and educational material on Hopedale history.

The Friends of Historic Hopedale have been very supportive financially and energetically of the efforts of the Hopedale Historical Commission and the Red Shop Preservation Committee. In January 2004, the "Crystal Ball" was held at the Radisson Hotel in Milford. It was an elegant "black tie" event and a great success. Many raffle items were available for prizes as well as several valuable auction items raised funds toward the restoration of the Red Shop. As they say, "a grand time was had by all" with many cries to "do it again next year".

Two successful signage projects have been completed during the past year. In four locations in Hopedale, at the beginning of the National Register Historic District, signs were located to indicate the entry and exit from the historic district. The signs indicate that the "Hopedale Village National Historic District" was approved on June 12, 2002. They are located on Mendon Street near the intersection of Adin Street, Mendon Street across from Fitzgerald Drive, Freedom Street across from 142 Freedom Street and Dutcher Street near Lower Jones Road.

The second project that is nearing completion are the historic house markers that homeowners could order with the date their house was built. These signs were made by students at the Blackstone Valley Technical High School over the past year. The final delivery will take place in September 2004.

In May of 2004, Hopedale was notified that it was one of the communities in the Blackstone Valley to receive the "Preserve America" award. In cooperation with the John H. Chaffee Blackstone River Valley Heritage Corridor Commission, Hopedale Historical Commission supported the grant application. The award was presented to the communities in Sutton on June 25th. Hopedale was presented with a certificate and a

Blackstone River Valley flag. These items were presented to the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting.

At the end of the 2004 fiscal year, the Commission received news that one of our most active members would be moving and thus ineligible to serve on the Commission. Judy Phillips of Dutcher Street announced she will be moving to Upton. Judy has been an active supporter of the Historical Commission and the Friends of Historic Hopedale since she first arrived in Hopedale six years ago. Hopedale's loss will be Upton's gain. She will be greatly missed.

The successes of the Hopedale Historical Commission are due to the hard work of all of its members and the Friends of Historic Hopedale. Thanks to all who have contributed to our success and work so hard to encourage the community to appreciate Hopedale's unique history.

Respectfully submitted,

Merrily C. Sparling, Chair

South Hopedale Historic Town Cemetery
Annual Report

June 30, 2004

We are happy to report that the rebuilding of the stone wall at the rear of the cemetery has been completed by Swift's Creative Landscaping, Inc.

The Town extended the water main on Plain Street after which loam was deposited by the Town Highway Department and spread along the wall bordering the cemetery. This area was seeded and fertilized to further beautify the cemetery. This work was performed by the caretaker, George Bushnell.

What the committee would like to accomplish this coming year is to replace the main entrance and walk entrances. Wooden white gates of some sort would set the old cemetery off and enhance it also. The effort to accomplish these goals is ongoing as funds become available.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta H. Simmons

HOPEDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 182

HOPEDALE, MA 01747

(508) 473-8120 • FAX (508) 473-4703



REPORT FOR THE HOPEDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR 2004

The annual meeting of the Authority was held on July 12, 2004; the following were elected or appointed to office:

Karen Villani	Chairman	2005
Louis Trevani	Vice Chairman	2006
* Edith Francis	Treasurer	2005
Robert Hammond	Asst. Treasurer	2008
Paula Malloy	Asst. Secretary	2009
Katherine E. Consigli	Executive Director and Secretary	
*State Appointee		

The Housing for Elderly, Project 667-1 and 667-2, known as Griffin-Dennett Apartments, consist of eighty apartments and is managed according to the regulations set forth by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Authority meets on the second Monday of each month and the annual meeting is held on the second, Monday in May. The Authority held eleven regular meetings, four special meetings.

The Authority, is in the process of replacing the windows in the 667-2 project, Dennett Apartments, the property is continually maintained and upgraded, throughout the year to insure a safe and healthy environment for all of its tenants.

The Recreation Hall has been renamed in Honor of Edward J. Malloy for his forty-three years of dedicated service to the Authority; a dedication will be held after the renovations to the hall are completed. A new rug, kitchen flooring, tables and furniture were purchased for the room. The hall will be repainted.

Mr. Arthur Allen, a long time employee, retired from the Housing Authority on February, 27, 2004, Mr. Allen started working at the Authority on April 26, 1976.

New picnic tables and grills were purchased for the tenants to enjoy during the summer months.

The computer system has been upgraded in the Director's office; Fire Drills were conducted

by the Hopedale Fire Dept. A Garden Club was created by the tenants for those wishing to beautify the property, and new social clubs are being formed by the tenants. This pass summer the Authority permitted the Friends of the Elders to hold their first town wide Senior Citizen BBQ on the property, an event enjoyed by many.

Re-organization of the Griffin-Dennett Tenant Association to cure deficiencies found in accordance with DHCD Regulations CMR 760. 6.09 as it relate to tenant organizations.

Griffin and Dennett Parking areas were repaved and sidewalks were repaired, trees and shrubs were pruned. New Christmas lights were purchased for the two large pine trees near the Malloy Hall, the Authority installed six automatic doors, one for the Dennett laundry building and two each for buildings 98 and 100 which are handicapped buildings and one for the Malloy Hall.

There is a current waiting list and local residents are still given preference according to state regulations.

Respectfully Submitted
Katherine E. Consigli
Executive Director

Bancroft Memorial Library Annual Report

The Trustees of the Bancroft Memorial Library for FY04 were Nancy Verdolino, Chair, Frederick Oldfield III and Katherine Wright. Building maintenance was a top priority for the Trustees and two important projects were accomplished during the year. A grant to restore the leaded glass windows was received and the project was completed by Art Glass of America. Once the windows were restored, painting of the trim on the windows and the front door was also completed. Masonry work and woodwork repairs were repaired at the same time. The Book Drop was refurbished and repainted to match the trim and now is an attractive addition to the library entrance. In October, the new library sign was designed and erected by Rocco Cavallaro of Cavallaro Signs through donations from the Friends and the family of James H. Young.

The library provided the following materials to patrons during the year.

Adult and Children's Books – 20,139

Periodicals - 638

Audio Visual Materials –

CD's – 1682

Videos/DVD's - 6185

Passes to area museums – 614

Total Circulation for FY2004 – 29,258

Program attendance – 808

Story hours and Children's Book Discussion – 475

The library also participates in the Interlibrary Loan program and received 402 items from other area libraries. The Library loaned 84 items to other area libraries.

In addition to library materials available to patrons, the library also presented many Adult and Children's programs during the year. Attendance at programs totaled 175 for Adult and 633 for Children. The some of programs presented included "Growing and Using Herbs," presented by Kathleen Cotta of Tuckaway Herbs and Flowers; "Remember When....the Draper Years," presented by Robert "Zeke" Hammond; "To Live a Truer Life, a story of the Hopedale Community," presented by author Lynn Gordon Hughes; "A Day in the life of Henry VIII," presented by Higgins Armory; "Antique Appraisal Program," with Kenneth Van Blarcom. A special dedication was held to commemorate the new library sign in Memory of James H. Young, the late former caretaker of Bancroft Memorial Library.

During the summer months, children's programs included the annual Summer Reading Program with Rick Golden Family Concert, Children's Music Concert by Joel

Warren; Jeff Danger's Magic Show; Fun with Science with Dan Malloy. Various craft programs and reading groups were held with attendance totaling 269.

Through the rest of the year the following children programs were offered "Cinderella" program; "Halloween"; "Mad Science...Dinosaurs"; Plimouth Plantation speaker; "The Nutcracker," performance by Dorothy Suszanska; "Cookie Decorating"; "Gingerbread House Decorating"; "Owl Moon" reading and crafts; Laura Ingall's Birthday Celebration; "Illusions Up Close Magic Show"; "Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration"; "Space, the Final Frontier"; "Music and Movement"; "Music and Stories with Davis Bates"; "Pajama Story time". Story hours and the K-2 Reading Club attracted over 475 attendees throughout the year in continued partnership with the Hopedale Memorial Elementary School. Children's Librarian, Mrs. Elaine Kraimer, visited eleven classrooms and presented book talks in grades one through five. Mrs. Kraimer read Holiday stories in grades one and two.

The Friends of the Hopedale Library continue to support library programs, museum passes and services to the Bancroft Memorial Library throughout the year. This year's projects and fundraising events included the Entertainment Book, Hopedale Magnets, Hopedale (and other towns) note cards, Historic Hopedale Plaques, offered by Debbie Landregan, "To Live a Truer Life" children's book, offered by Lynn Gordon Hughes, Napoleon's Pizza coupon and the Annual Friends of the Library Book and Bake Sale. The Friends efforts provide an important service to the library organization. Many activities and services would not be available without their continued support. The Trustees and Staff wish to thank the Friends for their ongoing efforts on behalf of the Bancroft Memorial Library.

In addition to the Friends organization, the library receives additional help from volunteers. Two volunteers have provided at least 208 hours during the past year. Without their assistance, many projects would not get accomplished. The Trustees are grateful for their efforts.

Finally, the Trustees wish to thank the staff for their time and effort on behalf of the Bancroft Memorial Library. They are the first people that patrons meet as they come in the door and make that special first impression on new visitors. A sincere thank you to the staff for their dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,

Board of Library Trustees

Nancy Verdolino, Chair

Frederick Oldfield III

Katherine Wright



1899 Hopedale Park Commission 2004

"Preserving the Legacy"

Rick Espanet, Chairman / Jim Binney / Meg McElroy

"Embracing the Future"

Visit our online "office" at: <http://www.hopedale-ma.gov>

105th Year, 93rd Annual Town Report

2004 was groundbreaking for the Park Commission as we continued to maximize available funds and resources to improve our operations, and preserve and upgrade recreational facilities and open-space land under our care. Land under our stewardship includes: Town Park, Hopedale Pond/Parklands, Mellen Field, and Adin Ballou Park. By agreement, we also oversee activities at the privately-held Draper Field facility.

2004 Milestones

- **Park Commission Goes "Virtual:"** <http://www.hopedale-ma.gov> -click on "Park Commission"
We are the *only* elected Town board to take full advantage of existing web development services contracted by the Town in 2002, by developing a website to manage our business. Residents, town officials and staff now have 100% access to updates, forms, rules and regulations, field schedules, meeting information, historical timelines/photos/data, FAQ's, etc.
- **Hiring Seasonal Maintenance Staff:** Mark Sesona was hired to perform field and facility maintenance from March to November, and David Sparks was hired as a summer assistant. Their efforts have had a major impact on improving the overall appearance and upkeep of our facilities, and have greatly reduced the workload burden on the Highway Department - which has done an outstanding job as our primary maintenance provider for many years.
- **Zero Tolerance on Vandalism:**
http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/Public_Documents/HopedaleMA_Parks/regs/zero
In conjunction with the Hopedale Police Dept., the Park Commission instituted a stringent Zero Tolerance policy against vandalism occurring on property under our care. We also joined forces with Bartlett Consolidated, who repairs damages and replaces damaged items – from fences to trees – with all costs encumbered by those who vandalized. This service is provided *at no cost whatsoever to the Town*.
- **Spring Election:** Rick Espanet was re-elected for a 4th term (expiring 2007), and named chairman by Secretary Jim Binney (term expires 2005) and Treasurer Meg McElroy (term expires 2006).
- **Meetings Broadcast "Live":** Cable Channel 8, 6 PM, 1st Wednesday of the month.
http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/Public_Documents/HopedaleMA_Parks/meetings

2004 Capital Improvements

- **Electrical Repairs and Upgrades:** Contractors repaired potentially dangerous electrical conditions around the Bandstand and Comfort Station. New wiring and timers were installed. Hazardous light poles on the first and third tennis court were replaced, and new wiring,

junction boxes and high-output/energy efficient lighting were added to all three courts. *Total Cost: ± \$1500*

- **Park Comfort Station (bathrooms) Re-Opened:** The Board found a cost-effective solution to remedy both resident complaints and eliminate unsightly, expensive, porta-toilets at the Town Park. First, plumbing and fixture repairs were made to the 91 yr. old Comfort Station. Next, heavy-duty, timed electronic locks were installed – a simple idea which automatically opens the facility for public convenience and locks it at night and off-hours. Along with daily cleanings by our maintenance staff, the re-opening of this building was welcomed by all. *Total cost: ± \$3000*
- **Lawn/Turf Services Discontinued:** By retrofitting a spreader unit from the Highway Dept. to fit the John Deere lawn tractor, our maintenance staff can now handle large-scale lawn seeding and fertilization tasks at Town Park and Mellen Field. *This eliminated upwards of \$3000 in annual lawn maintenance charges.*
- **Parklands Benched Added:** In response to a number of requests over the past few years, durable resting-benches were installed by our maintenance staff at scenic areas on both the east and west shores of Hopedale Pond. *Total cost ± \$700*
- **Mellen Field Parking Lot Repaired:** Free crushed asphalt provided by the Highway Dept. was used to level and “pave” this lot. *Total cost for the project: \$500 for heavy equipment.*
- **Mellen Field Playground Equipment Repaired:** An Eagle Scout project by Milford resident Mark Alzapedi upgraded and repaired existing playground equipment – especially the “whirlaround” which was in disrepair. Also added was a safety barrier between the access road and the playground area. *Total cost: ± \$100 for materials.*
- **Maintenance Truck Salvaged:** 1989 Ford Pickup Truck inherited from the Water Dept in 2003 was repaired and made roadworthy. *Total cost of ± \$1000.*
- **Mellen Field Softball Infield Reconstructed:** The grass infield at the far field was removed and the infield skinned - in a joint project with the Highway Dept. Costs for this project were split with the School Department and Hopedale Youth Softball. *Total cost ± \$1100.*
- **Park Storage Garage Repaired and Painted:** *Total Cost ± 100.*

Ongoing Projects and Events

- **Hopedale Pond Weed Control:** The largest undertaking since 1999 to eradicate nuisance aquatic vegetation (milfoil, fanwort & others), was conducted during the summer. The entire lower and mid sections of the pond were treated, as were select coves and the upper channel area north of the jetty. Aside from spot treatments as needed, the next full-scale treatment should not be necessary until the 2008 at the earliest. Our “Order of Conditions” from the Conservation Commission expires in 2009. *Total project cost: \$24,750*
- **HARFC (Hopedale Athletic and Recreational Fields Committee)**
http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/Public_Documents/HopedaleMA_Parks/harfc
The ad hoc committee convened twice this year as the Park Commission awaited feedback on various steps of Phase I of the EPA's Targeted Brownfields Site Assessment for the former Draper Corporation landfill. Work by the environmental firm of Metcalf & Eddy (M&E) that was originally slated to begin in late 2003, commenced in April 2004.

2004 HARFC Milestones

1. *April:* M&E conducts initial site inspection, plus background and historical investigations into past usage of the landfill.
2. *June:* The Park Commission and the U.S. EPA Regional Project Manager receive a Field Task Work Plan from M&E which summarizes how the site is to be examined/tested for the presence of environmental contaminants.
3. *July:* M&E begins staking out test bore sites in and around the landfill site as part of a full site assessment - including sampling activities to identify types and concentrations of contaminants and the areas of contamination that must be cleaned up
4. *August:* EPA soil samples taken.
5. *October:* Preliminary, raw data report received. Contamination levels at tested areas much less than anticipated. M&E and the EPA scrutinizing results to determine if more test bores are needed.
6. *November:* (pending) Formal report to establish cleanup options and cost estimates based on future uses and redevelopment plans.

2005 HARFC Goals

1. Review formal report with Town officials, the EPA, and property deed holder.
 2. Open discussions for Town acquisition of property
 3. Explore local, state and federal grant/funding options for site clean-up/capping and development.
- **Field Usage/Maintenance Fees:** Parks received signed, annual agreements (unless otherwise noted), from the following organizations in 2004.
- **School Dept.** \$5000 (\$2500 annual fee – plus 2003 delinquent payment).
Use/upkeep of: Town Park ballfield and tennis courts, Mellen soccer fields, Parklands (cross country), and Draper Field (softball field and field hockey).
 - **Milford/Hopedale Youth Soccer** \$2500
Use of Mellen Field for in-town program only. (3 yr. contract expires 2007)
 - **Hopedale Youth Baseball** \$1200
Use of Draper Field, Use/upkeep of Town Park ballfield.
 - **Hopedale Youth Softball** \$500
Use of Mellen softball fields
- **Summer Crafts & Recreation Program:** Another successful program was conducted at the Town Park. Games and crafts were overseen by Liz Mitchell, Amie Colcord and Gina Richards. Barry Gorman coordinated and ran our tennis program in July and August, with excellent participation in all age groups. The Park Dept. also sponsored two week-long clinics: baseball with Rich Piergustavo of Ballplayers, Inc., and soccer with Gary Compton of Soccer Camps 101. Ranger Chuck Arning of the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor also held two kayaking clinics at the Town Pond bath house that were well received.
- **Winter Skating:** Once again efforts were made to clear and flood sections of Hopedale Pond in front of the bath house. Lights around the lower pond were turned on for safety and the enjoyment of skaters when ice conditions were favorable. Residents are reminded that skating on the pond at any time can be dangerous, and doing so is always at their own risk.
- **Park Events:** The Summer Band Concert series sponsored by the Cultural Council in conjunction with the Park Dept., remained a popular Wednesday evening attraction. The annual Bright Beginnings Vehicle Fun Fair and Day in the Park events enjoyed beautiful weather and excellent support from residents.

Futures and 2005 Challenges

- **Open Space at Green St / Harmony Site:** This 10-15 acre parcel has been turned over to the Town by the developer of Harmony Estates. Both the Park and Highway Commissions have expressed interest and specific needs for portions of the site. Determination for future use currently lies with the Board of Selectmen. Future discussions are pending.
- **Change of Venue for High School Softball:** Parks and School administrators have reached an agreement to move the girls softball program from Draper Field to Mellen Field beginning in Spring 2005.
- **Information Kiosks for Park and Parklands:** Eagle Scout project by Jeffrey Brown of Hopedale will construct kiosks at busy areas. General information, maps, and rules/regulations will be posted at all sites.
- **Hopedale Pond Sand Plume:** Planned removal of the sand bar created by storm drainage runoff into the pond. Estimated cost ± \$8000.
- **Replace Town Park Flagpole:** Estimated Cost \$1200 - \$5500.

Issues/Vandalism

- The Park Commission and Police Department addressed and jointly prosecuted several acts of vandalism in 2004.
 - Several reports of loose dogs in the Parklands bothering, and in some cases *biting* passers-by were reported. New signage with the Town leash law and an immediate contact number for the Hopedale Police Dept. is being posted at several points along both sides of the pond. Inconsiderate dog owners should be reported via cell phone immediately. Violators will be fined.
 - Diligence by Park staff and concerned residents, plus new signage, has helped cut down on dogs being brought into the Town Park. Flagrant violators were been brought to the attention of the Police Dept. and fines have been issued.
 - Notices were distributed to some Dutcher St. abutters regarding the dumping of leaves onto Park property at the bath house and Dutcher St. gate. Some abutters on Northrup and Freedom Streets were approached and asked to stop dumping leaves into the Town Park.
 - Spray paint tagging along the Parklands cross-country route was addressed with School officials.
 - Vandals destroyed parts of the Town Park stone wall, and tossed trash cans about at Town Park. Thanks to alert citizens, the individuals responsible were identified, caught, and prosecuted. Reparations are being processed through Bartlett Consolidated.
 - A Mellen Field abutter was cited for destroying fencing, a dugout, and turf at Mellen field with his vehicle. Hopedale Police cited him, and Bartlett follow-up recouped all losses and repaired all damages.
 - The dugouts at the Town Park continue to be targets of vandalism. A move is underway to rebuild them in 2005 to eliminate the blind spots..
 - Alleged damage to a Northrup St. property by home runs hit out of Town Park continued to be an issue this spring. Complaints in 2003 were nil as the High School varsity team switched to wooden bats. This year, aluminum bats were once again allowed by MIAA rule, and the problem returned. The long term solution to this will be the evolution of new playing fields at the old Draper landfill site. In 2005; however, with the MIAA giving schools the option of using wooden or aluminum bats, the Park Commission will urge the School Dept. to use wood only at the varsity level.

Kudos

The work that our Board and staff have been able to accomplish this year was made much easier by the following folks: Michael Walker & Staff: Virtual Town Hall, Bob DePonte & Highway Dept. staff, Sharon Emerick & the entire Town Hall Staff, Jack Farrar, Finance Committee, Ronda Ohannesian, Janet Jacarusso, Don Howes, HPD, Officer Don Martin, HFD, Tim Watson & Water Dept. staff, Lenny Izzo, Bruce Hamilton, Bob Hyland, Steve Beaudoin, Mike Bresciani, Chet Francis: Varney Bros., Artie Maggiore, Andrea Hallion, Dennis Breen, Deb Parker, Bob Wood, Dale Boyett, Joe Small, Kimball Sand & Gravel, Ranger Chuck Arning, Dan Molloy, and the residents of Hopedale for your continued support and cooperation.

Finally, we would like to pay respects to Mr. Al Shimkus, Hopedale's Electrical Inspector who passed away this year. For decades, Al was a dedicated worker and good friend to both this Board - and the Town at large. He will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Espanet", written in a cursive style.

Richard P. Espanet, Chairman

27, October 2004

(A day that will live in infamy for Red Sox Nation!)



Planning Board

74 Hopedale Street
Hopedale, MA 01747

Annual Report for FY2004

Our regularly scheduled meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month in the Draper Room, Town Hall. Craig Travers was elected Chairman with Harland Griffin as Vice Chairman. Catherine Pisacane was elected to serve as our representative to the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. Carol Whyte was elected to a 5 year term and there is one vacancy on the Board.

We are presently coordinating efforts with other boards/departments to oversee the final phase of the development of Harmony Estates. Since its approval in 1998, there are now more than 160 homes with approximately 3.5 miles of roadways within the subdivision.

We also continue to review the site plans submitted for the use of 24 approved lots in the Plain St. Industrial Park, and to monitor its development.

At a Special Town Meeting on October 21, 2003, 4 articles submitted by the Board, amending the Zoning By-Laws were approved.

Respectfully submitted,
D. Craig Travers, Chairman
Harland Griffin
Catherine Pisacane
Carol Whyte



POLICE DEPARTMENT
70 HOPEDALE STREET, P.O. BOX 101
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS 01747-1241
TELEPHONE 508-634-2227
FAX 508-634-2228

CHIEF OF POLICE
EUGENE P. COSTANZA

FISCAL 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the residents of Hopedale, I hereby submit the Hopedale Police Department Annual Town Report.

Once again calls for service to the police department have increased compared to the stats of F.Y. 2003. Our present manpower has done it's best to handle the influx of calls.

The "911" system must be manned twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Civilian Public Safety Dispatchers are hired to perform this and numerous other tasks.

During the course of the year, we held several events such as, a Visit with Santa for the children, the Eleventh Annual Hopedale Police and Fireman's Ball, a Children I.D. Program, The Police Association and Police Union sponsored a little league team.

The police department continued its philosophy of Community Policing and maintained the Officer on Bicycle Patrol unit. As a result of the Community Policing Grant offered by the state, we are able to have a Harley Davidson Police Motorcycle available for patrol. The residents have seen the officers on their bikes at various public events such as, band concerts, road races, parades, and at times on routine patrol in the area of the park, park lands, center of town and neighborhoods. This type of policing has given us a better way to interact with the residents and children in town. Once again I received a lot of positive feed back from the residents regarding this program, especially in the area of the town park.

The police department applied for and received two grants during the year. We received one grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety for \$12,000.00 to continue our community-policing program. The second was for \$1,500.00 from the State Police, (Byrne Grant) to assist us in performing drug investigations.

We continued receiving our \$125,000.00 Federal Grant in order to hire a police officer to be assigned specifically to the schools. Officer Gagnon was assigned the Officer in School position. He

will work hand and hand with school personnel on a daily basis. So far the program has proven to be a huge success.

During the course of the year four veteran police officers left this department due to our low pay scale. Officer's Valiere, Chysna and Saball went to the Shrewsbury Police Department and Officer Reardon went to Framingham Police Department. We hired four Replacement officers who were laid off from Worcester Police Dept. They stayed for approximately four months and then were hired back by Worcester. Officer Best, a 17-year veteran resigned and moved to Florida. We were five to six men short for most of the year.


We continue to loose trained, loyal, and dedicated officers to other towns. Seems soon after we train them they leave here to go to other departments that pay much more than Hopedale. We have lost 11 officers over the past three years due to the low pay scale. We must increase our police officers pay scale to stay competitive with other towns or we will continuously be short staffed due to officers leaving.

Civil Service was voted out at the town meeting with the blessing of all police department personnel. We interviewed and were able to hire six new officers to fill the six vacancies we had. Officer's John Gagnon, John Moran, Joe Conlon, Bob Nelson, Steve Stodulski and Peter Saker came on board in June.

I want to thank the residents, Town Boards and Departments for their support and assistance. I look forward to working in unison with all parties during my tenure as Chief of Police. I especially want to extend my thanks to the members of the Hopedale Police Department. These men and women are a dedicated, sincere, and a loyal group of individuals whom have shown their support for me and always give 110%.

My intent was, and will always be, to maintain the demeanor of the Hopedale Police Department personnel in order to continue being a people's police department. As Chief of Police, I feel we have achieved this goal, along with maintaining our professional image, and always remembering we are here to protect, to serve, and to interact with the public.

Respectfully Submitted,



Eugene P. Costanza Jr.
Chief of Police

HOPEDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY

	2003	2004	INCREASE / DECREASE		
Total Number Of Accidents	89	74		-20.27%	
Total Number Of Accidents No Injuries	71	62		-14.52%	
Total Number Of Accidents With Injuries	18	12			-33.33%
Total Number Of Accidents Fatalities	0	0		0.00%	0.00%
Hazardous Motor Vehicle Arrests (Not O.U.I.)	341	102		-234.31%	
Operating Under The Influence Arrests	44	33			-25.00%
Total Number Of Motor Vehicle Citations Issued	3,524	1078		-226.90%	
Total Number Of Civil Citations Issued	611	150		-307.33%	
Total Number Of Complaint Citations Issued	478	37		-1191.89%	
Total Number Of Warning Citations Issued	2435	794		-67.39%	
Total Number Of Parking Citations Issued	108	261			141.67%
Total Number Of Abandoned Vehicles	1	0			-100.00%
Total Number Of Towed Vehicles	341	162		-52.49%	
Total Number Of Stolen Vehicles	1	4			300.00%

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Total Number Of Investigations	8,267	9,126		9.41%	
Total Number Of Arrests Felony / Adult	72	35		-105.71%	
Total Number Of Arrests Felony / Juvenile	16	6		-166.67%	
Total Number Of Arrests Misdemeanor / Adult	238	52		-357.69%	
Total Number Of Arrests Misdemeanor / Juvenile	21	9		-133.33%	
Total Number Of Arrest Warrants Served	174	17			-90.23%
Total Number Of Property Checks Made	1,674	1,917			12.68%
Total Number Of Field Interviews / Adult	321	407			21.13%
Total Number Of Field Interviews / Juvenile	47	56		16.07%	
Total Number Of Recovered Vehicles	1	2			50.00%
Total Number Of Recovered Bicycles	4	0			-400.00%
Total Number Of Stolen Bicycles	2	0			-200.00%
Total Number Of Summons / 209A Served	188	107			-75.70%
Total Number Of Drug Related Arrests	48	38			-26.32%
Total Number Of Individuals Held In Protective Custody	49	61			19.67%

ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL

Total Number Of Hours Spent On Dare	2,920	0			no dare
Total Number Of Hours Spent On Community Service	3,450	3,607		4.35%	
Total Number Of Patrol Hours	18,100	22,176		18.38%	
Total Number Of Selective Enforcement Hours	4,527	5,239			13.59%
Total Number Of Outside Agency Assists	736	853			13.72%
Total Number Of Training Hours	1,862	3,462			46.22%
Total Number Of Public Talks	231	260			11.15%
Total Number Of Court Appearances (Criminal)	354	372		4.84%	
Total Number Of Court Appearances (Civil)	310	304			-1.97
Total Number Of Administrative Investigations	5,423	5,435			0.22%
Total Number Of Calls For Service	36,651	38,723		5.35%	

Red Shop Preservation Committee Annual Report

The Red Shop Preservation Committee continues to work towards receiving the funding necessary for the restoration of the "Little Red Shop" on the shore of Hopedale Pond. The Committee now meets jointly with the Hopedale Historical Commission and receives tremendous support from the Friends of Historic Hopedale.

The Red Shop is opened for tours throughout the year with requests through the Blackstone River Valley Heritage Corridor Commission and the park rangers. The Red Shop Committee and the Hopedale Historical Commission open the Red Shop for tours during the annual Day in the Park event.

Thanks to the expertise of Bill Hardiman of the Historical Commission, a replica of the Red Shop was built and is moved to various locations in Hopedale with signs requesting donations toward the restoration project.

Although the Preservation Projects Fund Grant was not awarded in 2003 for the restoration project, the grant was submitted again for Round XI which will be awarded in November 2004. More than 50 applications were received for grant funds totally \$500,000; only twelve projects received awards. With the support of the Friends of the Red Shop and the Hopedale Charitable Foundation, the funds voted at the annual town meeting should provide almost all the funds necessary for the project to begin if the grant is awarded.

January's Crystal Ball provided additional funds toward the restoration project. The support of the Blackstone River Valley Heritage Corridor Commission and the cooperative efforts for plans to develop Hopedale as the gateway to the Blackstone Valley are significant factors in applying for grant funding.

Cooperation with the American Textile Museum in Andover will enable the Draper looms to be stored at their facility and maintained by the craftsmen who understand and operate these looms on a regular basis.

The Red Shop Committee with the assistance of the Hopedale Historical Commission is continuously seeking funding sources to bring this project to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

Merrily C. Sparling, Chair
William B. Gannett
Robert Brown



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 X15 Fax: 508-634-2200
E-mail: jjacaruso.hopedale@comcast.net

Board of Registrars

Dottie Milanoski, Chair
Joseph Drugan
Robert Hammond
Janet Jacaruso

June 30, 2004

The Board of Registrars is charged with overseeing the registration of voters, certification of nomination papers and election results, maintenance of voter rolls, publication of the annual List of Residents, Town Meeting and Election Day administration, and all other actions necessary to insure the validity and integrity of the election process.

In June, Selectmen reappointed Joseph Drugan to a three-year position on the Board. Dottie Milanoski & Robert "Zeke" Hammond hold positions which expire in 2006 and 2005 respectively.

One of the most far-reaching changes to elections has been implemented under the name of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). President Bush signed HAVA in October 2002 in an effort to improve voting across the country and in response to the problems that arose in the 2000 presidential elections. This federal legislation makes changes in the election process and applies to all federal elections in the United States. The most significant areas impacted by the legislation include voting equipment standards, including accessibility, provisional voting, voter registration, and voter education. The most-obvious change to voters locally will be the request for identification at the polls for voters who have registered by mail and have not previously voted in a federal election.

As of June 30, the Town has 3737 registered active voters. The Board will process a confirmation mailing during Fiscal Year 2005. This process is mandated by Massachusetts General Law and is undertaken to remove inactive voters who have moved out of town and have not notified the Board. This action will allow for a more accurate List of Residents as well.

We look forward to an exciting autumn with the State Primary scheduled for September 14 and the Presidential Election slated for November 2.

Respectfully submitted on the Board's behalf,

Janet Off Jacaruso



Board of Road Commissioners

7 Depot Street
Hopedale, MA 01747

Annual Report FY2004

The Board of Road Commissioners meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the Highway Department Office located at 7 Depot St. The officers for the year are: John Farrar, Chairman, Donald Fafard, Inspector and William Marquis, Clerk.

This year we “cold planed” and refinished Hopedale Street from Northrop St. to Greene St. This was done after the water line was installed by the Hopedale Water Dept. and after the Gas Co. completed their work. Our crew also hot topped and finished the water line installation trench on Plain St. with the combined effort of the Water Dept. We resurfaced a portion of Mendon St., also known as Rt. 16 which is a town owned road, from the Hopedale St. intersection to the Mendon town line. These projects were done with state Chapter monies that are allotted to cities and towns through assessments. The following roads were hot topped with Chapter 90 monies:

Lloyd St. (780’x28’)

Malquinn Dr. (640’x27’)

Charlesgate Rd. (1000’x27’)

Home Park Ave. (3020’x28’)

Thayer St. (650’x27’)

Adin St. (1230’x30’)

and the following sidewalks were reconstructed with town appropriated funds:

Social St. (680’x5’)

Peace St. (615’x5’)

Union St. (675’x5’)

Significant actions of the past year of included:

1. Mr. David Normandin of Braun’s express, donated a 45’ storage trailer to the Highway Department so that we may warehouse small equipment and supplies. His generous donation helped to alleviate a shortage of storage room and is presently located next to our facility.
2. Chris Nadeau, a former employee of the Hopedale Water Dept., was hired to fill a vacancy.
3. The Board of Health used the Highway barn for their annual rabies clinic held Saturday, April 10.
4. The Fire Dept. used our facilities again this past winter to shelter some of their vehicles while the Fire Station was undergoing renovations.

New acquisitions of equipment include a 2003 Ford F350 truck with 9’ plow; a Giant Vac leaf pick-up machine, plus we were able to re-power another 1985 Giant Vac machine so that we now have 2 leaf machines servicing the town during the fall curbside pick-up program. Town Meeting voted approval of the “blue building” roof replacement and the insulation and replacement of windows for the highway barn. We also continued to support the Park Dept. with manpower and equipment, servicing the various town owned parks.

We continue to be part of the Bellingham/Blackstone/Hopedale Co-op for construction/road materials and rental equipment which operates under the direction of the Bellingham DPW. This is a combined effort of area towns to help constrain the high cost of material expenses through a public bidding process of purchasing in bulk. The salt bids are with the Framingham Co-op.

Our thanks to the General Office staff for their assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

John Farrar, Chairman
Donald Fafard
William Marquis



Andrea Hallion
Superintendent of Schools

HOPE DALE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Tel (508) 634-2220
Fax (508) 478-1471

Elizabeth Lerner, Chair
Lou Arcudi, Vice Chair
Richard P. Mank
Richard W. Martin
Justine Tonelli

Term Expires 2006
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2006
Term Expires 2007
Term Expires 2007

**One Hundred Eighteenth Commencement of Hopedale High School
June 5, 2004**

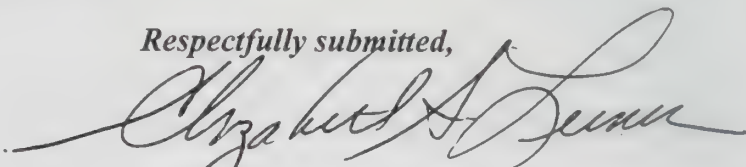
*Jaclyn Michele Alagna**
Corin Marie Araujo
Sarah Elizabeth Ashworth
Daniel Patrick Beers
*Michael Douglas Betschart**
Kevin James Binney
Heather Ann Brennan
*Timothy Walter Brennan**
*Molly Ann Burt**
Alex Raymond Cardoret
Jeffrey Thomas Caruso
*Patricia Devlin Chase**
*Danielle Marion Collins**
Adam Phillip Corl
Jacob Robert Crowe
Aaron Deletti
Joseph Eugene Donaher III
Barett Jordon Dziok
Ian Cameron Eiland
Heather Marie English
*William Robert Englund, Jr.**
Nicole Hokulani Feleciano
*Scott Paul Fletcher**
Kelly Formalarie
John Frank Geffert IV
*Mathew Justin Goodwin**
*Barry Michael Gorman**
Matthew Thomas Greathead
*Kevin John Hanley**
Ashley Marie Haynes
Jessica Jacqueline Johnson
*Jacqueline Elizabeth Jose**

Katherine Margaret Kearsley
*Brian Anthony Kiesman**
Heather Jean Laumeister
*Thomas Mark LeBlanc**
Justin Scott Lewis
Rebecca Ann Machacz
Micheil Lawrence Martorano
Amanda Patricia Mattix
*Cristen Jean McGuane**
*John Chester Mitchell**
Amanda Lynn Morrell
*Stephen David Normandin**
Gregory Robert Pantano
Amanda Jane Paolini
Lauren Theresa Ricci
William Andrew Riley
Matthew Douglas Rostanzo
*Kathryn Lee Seymour**
Peter Daniel Simmons
*Andrea Kathleen Smith**
Jeffrey Michael Sooley
Mathew Edward Stevens
Cassandra Lee Sullivan
Taryn Margaret Swan
*Karl Nathan Tenenholtz**
*Neil Arturo Tenenholtz**
*Korey Lynn Thiffault**
Mark Patricia Tiede
*Timothy Simonson Vaillancourt**
*Sarah Elizabeth White**

** National Honor Society*

The Hopedale School Committee hereby approves this and the attached Report of the Superintendent of Schools as the Annual Report of the School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth Lerner".

*Elizabeth Lerner, Chair
Hopedale School Committee*



HOPEDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING
25 ADIN STREET
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS 01747

ANDREA M. HALLION
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

TEL. (508) 634-2220
FAX (508) 478-1471

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 2003-2004 SCHOOL YEAR

New Leadership to Head the School

After sixteen years, ten as elementary principal and six as superintendent, I am retiring from the Hopedale Public Schools. I am proud of the accomplishments and improvements that we have made together. Every decision that was made was in the best interest of our students. Hopedale is a unique community with a solid tradition in family values. It has given me great satisfaction to have been a part of the Hopedale community for so long and contributed to moving the schools forward in this age of accountability and reform.

Dr. Patricia Ruane will become the Superintendent of Schools on July 1, 2004. She has a rich and varied background, as she has been a superintendent in Lexington and Needham and an Assistant Superintendent in Brookline. She earned her doctorate at Harvard University and has most recently been a visiting scholar at Northeastern University. I know that you join me in wishing her much success as she begins her tenure as superintendent.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges Awards Continued Accreditation to High School

"The faculty, staff, and administration...are making a significant and largely successful effort to provide a varied and comprehensive program in a small school. Teaching and learning are surely enhanced by the personal relationships in school and by a tradition of caring about students by school and community," the chair of the fifteen member visiting committee wrote in his evaluation report. That report was then reviewed and voted upon by the Commission on Public Secondary Schools and we were granted continued accreditation of our Junior-Senior High School.

A list of commendations and recommendations was included. A two-year progress report is required in which the status of each valid recommendation will be indicated. The School Committee joins me in congratulating Principal Breen and his staff on this outstanding accomplishment.

Thank you for the privilege of serving the Town of Hopedale and its schools for the last sixteen years and thank you also for the support you have provided for our outstanding students.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea M. Hallion
Andrea M. Hallion
Superintendent of Schools

ANNUAL REPORT OF TOWN COUNSEL

September, 2004

The past fiscal year was an active year in which Town Counsel rendered numerous legal opinions, approved contracts and guided transactions, met with the Board of Selectmen and various other boards, and handled a number of lawsuits on the Town's behalf.

Town Counsel continues to represent the Town in various ongoing litigation matters in state superior court, land court, state district court and before various administrative boards. I am pleased to report that nine of the Town's litigation matters have been successfully resolved this year, through a number of negotiated settlements and two court judgments in favor of the Town, including dismissal of a discrimination claim after the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination ruled in favor of the Town. These favorable resolutions have reduced the docket of pending litigation matters involving the Town by more than half, from fifteen pending matters to six.

This year we have advised the Town on various leases, land dispositions, zoning by-law amendments and renovations. We have drafted a lease for a portion of Town Hall, a conservation restriction, and various Town Meeting warrant articles requested by the Board of Selectmen. We have reviewed and advised as to proposed zoning by-law amendments, Fire Station alterations and additions, an application for a variance, a comprehensive stormwater program agreement, and various contracts. We have provided opinion letters regarding a proposed scholarship, disposition of school property, and the funding of various types of employment contracts and collective bargaining agreements.

Town Counsel has continued to take a pro-active approach to controlling costs by providing numerous memoranda on various areas of municipal law at no charge to the community. For example, we have responded to frequently asked questions regarding Comprehensive permits, summarized laws relating to military leave employment issues, and advised as to the new state legislation allowing the issuance of Sunday liquor licenses. We have also outlined the recent Supreme Judicial Court decision on same-sex marriage, the impact it has on the duties of town clerks with respect to the issuance of marriage licenses, and its affect on same-sex marriage-employee benefits. We have provided guidelines as to ways to minimize liability under the municipal tort claims act as well as laws governing liability resulting from defects in public ways. We have addressed procedures for repairs to private roads and snow removal on private roads and have summarized changes to public bidding requirements for public construction projects.

As always, we strive to provide timely and concise responses to requests for advisory opinions and have assisted in the review of articles for the Warrants for Town Meetings as well as attending Town Meetings and various board meetings.

We wish to express our thanks to all the people who have dedicated their time to the town government in Hopedale, especially the Board of Selectmen, Town Coordinator, and department heads. Without their assistance and cooperation, our collective objectives could not be attained.

Respectfully submitted,

Kopelman and Paige, P.C.

229208/HOPE/0001

REPORT OF THE TREASURER/TOWN COLLECTOR

To the Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Hopedale:


This is my First Annual Report as your Treasurer/Collector and I am very pleased with the continued progress we continue to make to improve our services and overall effectiveness. This office consists of six business units headed by the Treasurer/Town Collector. These include the collector's division, treasury, payroll, benefits administration, parking ticket administration and general office support.

Our responsibilities include initiating temporary and permanent borrowing, investing, managing and disbursing town funds, receiving all revenues of the town, processing the school and town payrolls, and performing other statutory functions required by the state and federal laws. This department is responsible for the billing and collection of all real estate, motor vehicle excise, personal property taxes, sewer and water assessments and billings and all other monies committed to the department for collection. Additionally, the general offices falling under the responsibility of the Treasurer/Town Collector assists other town departments by distributing recycle bins to the taxpayers for the Board of Health, processing all building permits, electrical permits, gas permits and plumbing permits; and distributing and collecting fees for printed materials such as the residents lists, zoning bylaws, town bylaws and other materials.

We've made significant changes in the efficiency of our operation this year. Taxpayers may have noticed that the Treasurer's office has been relocated to a much more accessible location on the first floor in the general offices. Motor vehicle excise tax bills and utilities bills now contain a return envelope which directs payments directly to a bank lockbox. This not only decreases the time to post payments to your accounts but, equally important, it has eliminated the need to seek part time help during cyclical peak periods.

I would like to thank the taxpayers of Hopedale for their continued diligence in paying their taxes and assessments in a timely fashion, to the Board of Selectmen and I feel very privileged to have the assistance of an extremely competent staff. Thank you Donna, Carol and Deb; I sincerely appreciate all of your hard work as well as your continued cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara J. Walls

Treasurer/Town Collector

REPORT OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR

Fiscal Year 2004

RECEIVABLES BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 2004

REAL ESTATE TAXES

Fiscal Year 2004	\$155,274.62
Fiscal Year 2003	\$25,988.82
Fiscal Year 2002	\$0.00
Prior Years	\$5,997.73

\$187,261.17

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Fiscal Year 2004	\$1,122.18
Fiscal Year 2003	\$3,873.93
Fiscal Year 2002	\$4,337.91
Prior Years	\$18,278.51

\$27,612.53

TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS

\$180,779.45

\$0.00

TAX DEFERRAL ACCOUNT

\$2,508.21

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

Fiscal Year 2004	\$77,767.50
Fiscal Year 2003	\$15,749.27
Fiscal 2002	\$5,139.09
Prior Years	\$57,924.25

\$156,580.11

TOTAL OUTSTANDING RECEIVABLES

\$554,741.47

REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER

TREASURER'S CASH BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 2004

NON INTEREST BEARING ACCOUNTS:

Cash in Office	\$250.00	
		<u>\$250.00</u>

INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNTS

Boston Safe - Vendor Account	\$182,100.39	
Unibank - Depository	\$69,081.74	
Unibank - Payroll	\$58,062.80	
		<u>\$309,244.93</u>

LIQUID INVESTMENTS

Eastern Bank	\$64,493.61	
Boston Safe Deposit MM	\$1,538,764.72	
Century Bank & Trust	\$72,072.26	
Citizens MM	\$31,325.25	
First Fed MM	\$100,031.81	
Fleet (Performance Bonds)	\$23,375.99	
Fleet MM	\$246,404.92	
Bank North Blended Investments	\$816,141.87	
MMDT	\$98,121.45	
Unibank MM	\$215,318.31	
Unibank (Elementary School MM)	\$17,710.60	
Unibank (High School MM)	\$56,750.02	
		<u>\$3,280,510.81</u>

TERM INVESTMENTS

Fleet (Library Fund)	\$8,975.04	
Paine Webber General Investments	\$350,635.64	
		<u>\$359,610.68</u>

STABILIZATION

Fleet	\$139,667.55	
Paine Webber	\$1,305,254.44	
		<u>\$1,444,921.99</u>

TRUST FUNDS

PAINE WEBBER	\$90,284.63	
		<u>\$90,284.63</u>

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS		<u><u>\$5,484,823.04</u></u>
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Debt Statement
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004

Long Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2003	New Debt Issued	Retirements	Outstanding June 30,2004	Interest Paid in FY04
High School	\$12,955,000		\$8,365,000	\$4,590,000	\$688,080
Memorial School	\$4,690,000		\$3,830,000	\$860,000	\$223,280
Municipal - GOB -Refunding		\$12,780,000		\$12,780,000	
Sewer	\$912,400		\$912,400	\$0	
Water Mains	\$859,534		\$32,713	\$826,821	\$7,163
Total Long Term Debt	\$19,416,934	\$12,780,000	\$13,140,113	\$19,056,821	\$918,523

Short Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2003	New Debt Issued	Retirements	Outstanding June 30,2004	Interest Paid in FY04
1/15/2000 Ambulance	\$23,687		\$23,687	\$0	\$1,044
5/31/2002 Sewer Construction Engineering	\$0			\$0	
07/26/2002 Fire Pump Truck	\$127,083		\$62,131	\$64,952	\$4,670
06/10/2003 Fire Station BAN	\$1,934,000		\$1,934,000	\$0	\$21,355
06/10/2003 Water Main Replacements BAN	\$110,000		\$110,000	\$0	\$1,215
03/05/2004 Fire Station BAN Renewal		\$1,934,000		\$1,934,000	\$21,355
03/05/2004 Water Main Replacements BAN Renewal		\$110,000		\$110,000	\$1,215
Total Short Term Debt	\$2,194,770	\$2,044,000	\$2,129,818	\$2,108,952	\$50,852

Additional Debt Authorized but Unissued	Date of Vote	Article #	Amount Authorized	Issued or Retired	Balance Unissued June 30,2004
Water Main Replacements	4/10/01	5	\$1,400,000	\$969,534	\$430,466
Storm Water Management Program	6/22/04	7	\$ 385,000		\$385,000
Fire Station Soil Remediation	7/20/04	1	\$ 117,651		\$117,651
Fire Station Renovation Over Runs	7/20/04	3	\$ 175,000		\$175,000
Total Authorized and Unissued Debt					\$1,108,117

2003 GROSS EARNINGS

	TrueGross YTD
BALANCA, JOHN M	\$3,720.00
BASINER, MICHAEL SEAN	\$12,206.25
BELLEMORE, MARILYN I.	\$1,607.75
BEST, VICTOR G	\$64,701.05
BINKOWSKI, LINDA A.	\$15,012.76
BOSMA, STEVEN B.	\$32,678.60
BOSSOLT, JOHN L.	\$36,228.89
CANDELARIA, JESUS R.	\$5,008.72
CARRON, MARK A	\$32,341.45
CHASE, PATRICIA D.	\$551.76
CHYSNA, CHAD R	\$16,287.92
COCKROFT, MARY M	\$367.50
COLLINS, WILLIAM T.	\$47,453.94
DEPAOLO, JOHN R.	\$183.75
GOODWIN, CHRISTINE M	\$44,802.71
GREENE, THERESA M	\$16,242.61
HOFFER, BETH I.	\$51,893.74
JULIAN, JESSIE G.	\$796.28
KENTON, MEREDITH C.	\$540.00
LUCHINI, JOSEPH PETER	\$350.00
MACLEAN, DAWN	\$186.00
MALNATI, ROBERT M JR	\$360.20
MARCOTTE, SHANE M.	\$6,917.98
MASNIK, THERESA ANN	\$3,105.00
MITCHELL, PETER B	\$550.00
OHANNESIAN, RONDA	\$23,523.05
POIRIER, BRETT P.	\$14,571.22
REARDON, GREGORY MICHAEL	\$1,921.72
SABALL, ANDREW J	\$63,127.05
SHIMKUS, ALBERT	\$4,670.00
VALLIERE, SHAWN B	\$59,585.22
ALGER, TIMOTHY J.	\$125.00
ARCUDI, , LOUIS J. III	\$625.00
BURT, EDWARD	\$94.33
CARROLL, JAMES F.	\$100.00
COMASTRA, DONALD D	\$150.00
ESPANET, RICHARD P	\$550.00
GALLAGHER, STEVEN J.	\$125.00
GRIFFIN, HARLAND E	\$1,050.00
HAYNES, THOMAS M	\$150.00
LERNER, ELIZABETH	\$1,000.00
MARTIN, RICHARD W.	\$1,183.75
MAZZARELLI, ROSS S.	\$125.00
MCELROY, MARGARET M.	\$250.00
PISACANE, CATHERINE V.	\$700.00
STRAPPONI, COLLEEN M.	\$100.00
TRAVERS, D CRAIG	\$1,350.00
WEAVER, MICHAEL Y	\$700.00
ALBERTO, LISA M	\$1,600.00

ANDERSON , HAROLD W.	\$316.25
BINNEY, JAMES	\$550.00
FAFARD, DONALD	\$700.00
FARRER JR, JOHN E	\$800.00
MARQUIS, WILLIAM P	\$700.00
MORIN, JAMES M	\$500.00
MORO, ROBERT M.	\$825.00
TARCA, ALDO P	\$600.00
TONELLI, JUSTINE A.	\$1,316.25
VOLPE, RICHARD L	\$1,250.00
LARKIN, FRANCIS J	\$200.00
COLLINS, MICHAEL E	\$2,500.00
MILANOSKI, MICHAEL	\$2,000.00
RYAN, ALAN J.	\$2,000.00
KEYES, DANIEL M.	\$66,595.23
PEDROLI, LISA M	\$1,186.51
EMERICK, SHARON E	\$44,815.39
PHILLIPS, EUGENE N.	\$43,176.37
WHYTE, CAROL A.	\$5,340.40
LAMPHERE, DONNA	\$30,826.39
WINTERS, CAROL A	\$27,834.12
MERCER, DEBRA A	\$30,268.95
JACARUSO, JANET O	\$12,037.59
HAMMOND, ROBERT A.	\$500.00
MILANOSKI, DOROTHY C	\$600.00
BIUSO, CHRISTOPHER	\$1,724.82
BUKSAR III, ANDREW J.	\$437.53
CIARAMICOLI, MICHAEL	\$2,024.33
GROSS, VERNON	\$2,399.92
JENKINS, RYAN T.	\$1,820.52
MAILING, DONALD	\$2,235.05
BUCCHINO, MARK P	\$4,181.24
GRINDLE, PAUL D.	\$1,308.97
LAVIGNE, JONATHAN A.	\$274.20
LOPEZ, DANIEL	\$8,086.27
MACLEAN, JAMES S	\$2,300.15
MALNATI, ROBERT M	\$1,387.57
MARCOTTE, MARK A.	\$1,608.82
MURPHY, HAROLD V	\$3,337.35
O'DONNELL, DAVID W.	\$708.37
SOUSA, MARIO P JR.	\$236.40
COSTANZA, EUGENE P	\$77,946.98
GARDNER, JAMES M	\$82,661.89
GIOVANELLA, MARK A	\$84,230.86
MANK, RICHARD P	\$74,869.56
MARTIN SR, DONALD J	\$64,783.29
MINICIELLI, WAYNE J	\$52,687.66
COLLINS, LISA M	\$39,032.83
MAHAN, STEVEN R	\$24,505.05
MASON, CHERIE A	\$36,724.89
TEBEAU, JOHN A	\$35,038.28
BARRY, PAUL	\$49,431.91

DAIGE, THOMAS M JR	\$65,808.12
FOSBURGH, JR., LESLIE N.	\$20,743.83
GARLAND, SCOTT	\$60,358.47
GLEASON JR, RICHARD J	\$54,839.75
MCMORROW, DAVID J	\$53,862.68
BARTLETT, EUGENE	\$1,925.00
BRADLEY, MICHAEL J.	\$956.25
BROPHY, SEAN J.	\$213.00
CASTIGLIONE, PAUL	\$1,258.50
CHAPMAN, CHRISTOPHER J.	\$89.44
CURLEY, JAMES P	\$9,645.88
CYR, ALAN J.	\$300.00
DRUGAN, JOSEPH P	\$2,882.00
DUNLAVEY, PHILIP G	\$2,759.50
EAMES, JAMES F.	\$300.00
FALVEY, DAVID F.	\$852.00
GOSSELIN JR., LEONARD E.	\$284.00
GRADY, DENNIS P.	\$3,152.75
GRIFFIN, JAMIE A	\$2,714.50
HEAVEY, MICHAEL J.	\$300.00
HESTER, CHARLES E	\$5,274.95
HOAR, T. MATTHEW	\$3,795.50
HUNCHARD, JOSEPH B.	\$284.00
KEIRSTEAD, THOMAS A	\$873.75
KINGKADE, KENNETH W.	\$568.00
KLOCZKOWSKI, GUY S.	\$1,897.50
KUTCHER, BRIAN D.	\$284.00
LAMBIRTH , WILLIAM DAVID	\$390.50
LISS, PAUL	\$300.00
MASON, PAMELA L.	\$284.00
MASSEY, BRIAN	\$711.00
MCLAUGHLIN, JOHN E	\$300.00
MOFFI, PAUL J.	\$513.00
PARISI, PAUL J.	\$479.25
POIRIER, BRUCE A.	\$976.25
POKORNICKI, JR., EDWARD W	\$2,435.50
RIZOLI, PETER J.	\$213.00
ROLLS , JULIUS L. JR.	\$1,200.00
SANCHIONI, JOHN A.	\$355.00
SINKO, STEPHEN M	\$426.00
STANLEY, CRAIG R	\$637.50
SULLO, NICHOLAS	\$1,207.00
TESTA, THOMAS A.	\$284.00
TESTA, TODD	\$1,398.50
WAGNER, STEPHEN M.	\$390.50
WALCKNER, JAMES A	\$284.00
EVANS, PATRICK W	\$47,214.22
TUSINO, MICHAEL A	\$20,000.00
FONTANA, JOHN C	\$1,220.00
BURGESS, MARGARET A	\$640.00
FERRUCCI, JOHN A.	\$460.00
GASSETT, SAMANTHA	\$1,080.00

MAEL, LEON J.	\$500.00
THOMSON, ROCHELLE C	\$1,040.00
LYONS, LEO	\$1,000.00
DEPONTE, ROBERT S	\$54,307.36
GAFFNEY, CHARLES F	\$47,057.44
LAMBERT, GERALD	\$42,615.92
NADEAU, CHRISTOPHER	\$42,364.56
OZELLA III, VINCENT J	\$39,790.21
WATSON, THOMAS E	\$39,314.82
COOPER, DONALD L	\$50,563.30
DEMEO, VINCENT M.	\$40,312.00
MORIN, JEFFREY M	\$42,622.15
SCHREIBER, JOHN T	\$47,472.42
WATSON, TIMOTHY J	\$59,071.68
IZZO, LEONARD A	\$31,202.96
IZZO, MICHAEL A.	\$3,165.00
MITCHELL, JOHN C.	\$250.00
SALES, ELIZABETH W	\$750.00
VENDETTI, LUCIO P.	\$2,490.00
DELETTI, ESTHER P	\$10,295.30
MULLEN, CAROLE K.	\$24,566.28
MASTROIANNI, A J	\$2,559.98
FOX, DEVON T.R.	\$411.75
KRAIMER, ELAINE M	\$24,977.29
MANCZUROWSKY, WALTER P	\$3,748.08
PILLSBURY, ANNE PANDORA	\$9,121.48
SARTORI, SARA L.	\$5,452.75
SULLIVAN, WENDY H.	\$21,598.55
COLCORD, AMIE E	\$2,960.00
GORMAN, BARRY M.	\$900.00
MITCHELL, ELIZABETH	\$2,972.50
ARCUDI, LOUIS J.	\$1,396.75
CAMPBELL, NANCY J.	\$11,647.99
CARRIER, JULIE A	\$16,871.95
COLANTONI, JEAN L	\$26,461.16
CURTIS, JEAN	\$12,137.28
ESPANET, MELISSA M	\$40,881.41
FERRELLI II, VINCENT F.	\$1,625.00
FREEMAN, LOWELL	\$8,598.34
HOPKINSON, ALLAN G.	\$18,100.03
KELLEHER, CHERYL	\$13,376.65
LAUMEISTER, DENISE T	\$11,355.25
LOCKLIN, TAMI L.	\$13,704.40
MCGUANE, CRISTEN J.	\$5,705.00
MCGUANE, JEANNE E.	\$20,426.25
MONTEIRO, LINDA A.	\$4,527.25
MULLANEY, MICHAEL J.	\$22,934.89
PERRY, KATHLEEN S.	\$45,643.80
PETERS, KAREN	\$25,636.84
PETERS, RALPH W	\$5,422.93
SCHAUBEN-FUERST, DANIEL	\$82,006.52
SULLIVAN-MCDOUGLE, CAROL	\$5,748.20

TADDEO, DEBORAH ANN	\$3,563.39
WASNEWSKI, ANDREA M	\$28,095.90
BAVOSI, MICHELLE A.	\$325.00
BEAUDOIN, MARSHA A.	\$960.00
BERTONAZZI, LISA R.	\$480.00
BETSCHART, MICHAEL D	\$320.00
BILODEAU, ANDRE J.	\$540.00
BOYETT, G. DALE	\$2,562.00
BOYKO, KEVIN M.	\$90.00
BUCCELL, APRIL	\$540.00
CANDINI, ALYSSA A.	\$575.00
CANDINI, BRYAN T.	\$180.00
COLCORD, ALICIA J	\$780.00
COTE, KATHERINE B.	\$300.00
DEC, THEODORE C	\$990.00
DERDERIAN, CRISANDRA A.	\$420.00
DESANTIS, BRENDA J.	\$60.00
DORSEY, KRISTEN E.	\$600.00
EILAND, LARRAINE M.	\$1,230.00
ENGLISH, SEAN P.	\$180.00
ESPANET, KATHLEEN A.	\$457.51
FEELEY, MARK F.	\$3,804.00
FLATLEY, SHARON A.	\$120.00
FORKEM, WILLIAM M.	\$60.00
GIGUERE, LUCI F.	\$180.00
GILCHRIST, KELLY A.	\$150.00
GOODREAU, MICHAEL L.	\$120.00
GRADY, ALISON M	\$1,200.00
GRADY, MARY A.	\$60.00
GRIDER, CAROLYN E.	\$595.00
HORSEY, JAMES L.	\$60.00
HOWARD, STEPHANIE L.	\$4,500.00
HRECZUCK, SANDRA A.	\$120.00
JOHNSON, LAURA A.	\$180.00
JOSE, CHRISTINE M	\$60.00
KEARSLEY, DEBORAH	\$990.00
KIMBALL, JANET	\$2,640.00
KLEYA, JACQUELYN	\$120.00
LAMBERT, KRISTINA A.	\$150.00
LAPRESTE, RICHARD A.	\$2,218.50
LONGO, AMANDA	\$360.00
MADDEN, DEBRA B.	\$1,265.00
MARCOTT, KRISTEN M.	\$120.00
MAZZUCHELLI, CABIRIA M	\$120.00
MCLAUGHLIN, GINA E.	\$126.08
MEI, VALERIE J.	\$170.00
MITCHELL, ANGELA R.	\$50.00
MORAN, MEAGAN E.	\$210.00
MORIN, JOAN D	\$640.90
MORREALE, JULIE ANN	\$300.00
NOCE, HEIDI M	\$300.00
NORRIS, TRACY L.	\$1,120.00

PEREZ, LUIS G.	\$3,360.00
PERKINS, HOPEANN	\$30.00
PHANEUF, ELISABETH E.	\$2,082.00
PRITCHARD, ELIZABETH A.	\$650.00
RILEY, TARYN L.	\$240.00
RINEHART, RICHARD J	\$3,790.00
ROSSI, FRANCES	\$180.00
SABATINO, RALPH D.	\$840.00
SANTACROCE-BROTHERS, JUNE	\$175.08
SMALL, JOSEPH J	\$2,382.00
SPATES, LAUREN E.	\$50.00
STANAS, JULIE T.	\$4,920.00
STROM, KATHLEEN E.	\$240.00
SUSZANSKI, JULIAN PETER	\$460.32
THOMPSON, WILLIAM E.	\$600.00
ALGER, MICHAEL	\$3,150.03
APICELLA, SUSAN	\$36,357.12
ATKINSON, MARIE	\$6,470.09
BETSCHART, THOMAS J.	\$60.00
BIRD, LAURIE M	\$22,035.79
BROWN, NICHOLAS C.	\$887.25
BURKE, CATHERINE M.	\$1,454.25
CARON, ANDREA L.	\$4,600.92
CARON, THOMAS L.	\$441.00
CREEKMORE, JOAN C	\$13,589.15
DALEY, LISA L.	\$10,659.02
DAVIS, MARY LYNNE	\$390.01
DELOIA, ASHLEY M	\$735.00
DEMERS, KATHRYN C.	\$4,098.02
DILIS, ERIN E.	\$1,874.25
DOOLEY, HEATHER L.	\$1,288.81
DOOLEY, PATRICIA A.	\$2,845.94
EDWARDS, COURTNEY A.	\$3,110.57
FEIJO, LAURA M.	\$1,865.64
GLENN, SALLY ANN	\$19,589.52
KEANEY, SHANNON	\$1,873.41
KELLEHER, AMY L.	\$210.00
KELLY, MEGAN M.	\$960.75
KINCAID, SUSAN L.	\$1,218.00
KLING, STEPHANIE L	\$3,228.89
LARRABEE, MICHELLE M.	\$1,307.25
LATHROP, NICOLE R	\$8,440.94
LEMON, SANDRA	\$19,128.13
LEWIS, GLORIA	\$2,639.62
MACEWEN, SHANNON R.	\$3,655.55
MARTIN, KAREN ANNE	\$33,455.57
MCPHEE, PHYLLIS	\$9,750.93
MESSIER, LAURA M.	\$590.63
MOSSMAN, CHERYL	\$7,094.83
MULREADY, SUSAN A	\$59,887.80
RANDO, CINDY L.	\$8,937.56
RAPP, LINDSAY MARIE	\$1,417.50

RECCHIA, HEATHA MICHELLE	\$2,335.49
ROSSACCI, KAREN S	\$16,447.38
SPATES, LINDA M.	\$17,574.59
TARELLA, KATHLEEN M	\$9,837.52
TATTERSALL, ELIZABETH A	\$2,762.05
ALDRICH, ELSIE E.	\$12,871.89
ARCUDI, MARY	\$13,171.03
ARSENAULT, SUSAN	\$17,209.02
ATCHUE, SALLY J	\$52,711.99
AW, MICHAEL	\$49,600.88
BAILLARGEON, FREDERICKE L	\$48,190.60
BALOG, CHRISTINE	\$15,041.61
BARRETT, KAREN F.L.	\$8,050.46
BORGHİ, ANDREA T.	\$43,741.85
BOURGERY, DANIEL	\$50,534.83
BOWEN, DOREEN E	\$58,171.17
BUONOMO, MEGAN J.	\$34,169.52
CANDINI, MARIAN E	\$60,499.58
CAPPABIANCA, CHRISTINE MA	\$45,315.75
CARBONI, JANET	\$53,928.47
CARLSON, JUDITH MARIE	\$39,423.88
CASTIGLIONI, MARIA	\$4,882.50
CAULKINS, LINDA B.	\$5,272.07
CIARAMICOLI, SUZAN L.	\$6,468.26
COGLIANDRO, KATHLEEN ANN	\$43,875.42
COLLETTE, COLEEN	\$66,594.54
COLLETTE, COURTNEY E.	\$4,945.00
CORMIER, CHERYL	\$59,061.53
CORNELL, LUCILLE M	\$28,552.83
DELUCA, JANET	\$61,400.34
DIEMONT, DEBORA L.	\$12,646.71
DONNELLY, ELIZABETH A.	\$5,063.22
DOS RAMOS, MARIA SUAREZ	\$30,035.07
DUNN, SUZANNE G W	\$55,145.09
D'URSO, THOMAS R	\$61,872.32
ELLIOTT, KATHRYN N.	\$10,872.26
ENGLUND, ANN D	\$27,048.00
FINNEGAN, KATHRYN E	\$11,023.17
FOX, BETH BARBARA	\$52,856.88
GANNON, NANCY	\$7,882.63
GILBERTSON JR, ROBERT E	\$19,904.25
GROSS, MARK E.	\$6,530.48
HACKETT, AMANDA J.	\$41,274.64
JOHNSON, DIANNE M	\$52,236.61
KITA, DEBORAH E	\$63,807.64
KLING, REASHA A	\$19,682.94
LABOSSIERE, CLAIRE	\$11,302.00
LANE, AMY S	\$40,032.84
LEBLANC, AIMEE M.	\$12,646.71
LECLAIRE, JANE M	\$47,302.75
LEWIS, RONALD	\$55,540.93
LOUCKS, JENNIFER L.	\$40,276.91

MACDONALD, CHERYL	\$39,423.88
MANGANO, BARBARA J.	\$10,607.57
MANNING, LAURA J.	\$10,841.61
MARTIN, KERRI L.	\$10,617.65
MCGRATH, DONNA	\$62,081.52
MCPHERSON-TODD, KELLY	\$41,486.98
MILLER, SUSAN J.	\$11,550.30
MOLONEY, PAMELA	\$54,135.23
MOORADIAN, MARILYN	\$53,432.34
MOYNIHAN, JAYNE T.	\$4,607.76
PACHECO, LORI	\$69,456.30
PAGE, JANET R	\$57,137.58
PAPARAZZO, ANNA M.	\$2,683.62
PHILLIPS, LINDA J	\$60,636.80
PIGEON, LISA MARIE	\$23,411.96
POOLE, DAYNA M.	\$14,677.47
ROLO, ANN M	\$50,833.09
ROMASCO, ALEXA K	\$37,169.25
RUDDOCK, PAMELA	\$11,533.74
SKORUPA, CANDACE C	\$43,794.91
SMITH, ANNE M	\$17,481.64
STARE, JOSEPHINE	\$11,180.99
SUTTON, SR., WILLIAM STEP	\$29,108.51
TUITE, LINDA J.	\$18,428.06
VALDEZ-MORAN, BERTHA I	\$48,490.60
VERDOLINO, NANCY KELLY	\$59,982.11
WALKER, JACQUELINE A	\$59,481.70
WARD, CONSTANCE A.	\$11,031.26
WEGMAN, ALLISON M	\$41,948.47
WODIN, LAURIE S	\$49,675.80
ALGER, KARLENE A	\$27,655.65
ANTOLINI, GINA A	\$21,536.45
BAMBERGER, DONALD R.	\$60.00
BARCLAY, BRUCE	\$67,966.19
BEAUDRY, ANTHONY	\$52,166.92
BETSCHART, ANNE MARIE	\$13,246.57
BREEN, DENNIS J.	\$87,204.98
BROOKE, JANICE	\$55,119.91
BUSCONE, SARAH J.	\$43,279.42
BUTLER, M KELLEY	\$58,559.15
COLE, CYNTHIA A.	\$40,051.86
COLLINS, NANCY A	\$57,157.18
CORDANI, ANTHONY	\$55,873.10
DAFONTE, MARIA G	\$49,247.54
D'AMICO, SANDRA	\$52,473.17
DEC, JAMES L.	\$880.00
DEVITO, ANN	\$42,233.61
DIANTONIO, JILL	\$48,592.12
DONNELLY, JACQUELINE M.	\$27,401.54
EKWALL, MERIDETH L	\$51,593.50
FISCHER, THOMAS	\$51,472.78
FITZGIBBON II, ROBERT F.	\$5,065.95

FRAGA, LOUIS	\$63,845.19
GUADAGNOLI, SHERRI L.	\$42,124.20
GUERTIN, PATRICIA	\$23,053.71
HERON, LAWRENCE	\$62,668.26
HOWARD, MARY E	\$17,444.93
IZZI, APRIL L.	\$25,786.04
JOHNSON, NANCY A	\$63,572.63
KELLY, SUSAN P	\$13,901.43
KEOUGH, KAREN G	\$66,608.66
KILLAM, DONNA M	\$13,152.02
KUT, JOYCE	\$13,171.79
LABRODE, ANN	\$54,960.09
LAMORA, LINDA L.	\$7,880.82
LEVINSOHN, JOAN ROSE	\$50,024.27
LOPES, ELIZABETH F	\$55,213.45
MCCALLUM, LAUREN E.	\$7,074.69
MCELROY, KATHY	\$7,664.79
MENDALA-THOMPSON, RUTH	\$59,151.11
MULRONEY, MARY M	\$48,191.62
NEE, MICHAEL J.	\$2,499.00
NEUDING, JAN	\$60,728.52
NICHOLSON, DANIEL	\$63,254.03
OLIVERI, TALITHA	\$43,423.00
PARKER, DEBORAH A	\$66,259.70
PIERGUSTAVO, RICHARD	\$45,559.00
PIMENTAL, LAURIE A.	\$27,767.10
REYNOLDS JR., JAMES J	\$39,917.58
RICH, WILLIAM	\$68,112.40
RINEHART, PHILIP S	\$40,161.68
SANTACROCE, RONALD	\$64,508.24
SANTOSUOSSO, JENNIFER B.	\$14,076.36
SCANO, ALICE M	\$62,181.77
SIMPSON, JAMES L	\$10,267.89
SNADDON GRIFFIN, HEATHER	\$57,528.01
ST. PIERRE, SARAH W.	\$11,815.92
STOCK, ADELE	\$69,083.63
URMSTON, MARIE	\$47,639.50
URQUHART, MATTHEW P.	\$44,097.99
WOOD, ROBERT	\$71,335.28
WOOLHISER, JAMES	\$39,469.88
YOUNG, DAVID R.	\$14,980.14
CAPUZZIELLO, NANCY	\$8,954.57
CIFIZZARI, BRIANNA R.	\$1,030.00
COWEN, JOHN M.	\$1,902.00
JOHNSON, PETER C.	\$2,382.00
JUSZYNSKI, FRANK	\$1,902.00
MCCALLUM, JAMES R.	\$6,202.00
OLSEN, LAURENCE C.	\$2,382.00
PERRAS, DEREK B.	\$1,902.00
PERRY, BROOKE C.	\$2,382.00
TARELLA, MICHAEL D	\$70.00
VERDOLINO, JAMES V.	\$1,030.00

ANDERSON, BETH C.	\$36,969.03
BERARDI, TERRI	\$6,674.74
BETSCHART, DOUGLAS M.	\$6,539.64
BOOTH, KIM F	\$22,884.92
BOSTWICK, ELIZABETH	\$2,640.00
BRYAN, JULIE C.	\$930.00
BUCKLEY, MICHAEL J.	\$79,887.68
CARDINAL, LISA CEDRONE	\$5,199.60
CLASON, TRACEY LYNCH	\$64,435.15
CORMIER, JOANNE	\$12,109.30
CORNELL, MARY F.	\$26,187.28
COSTELLO, LINDA M	\$234.68
CUMMINGS, ANTONIA NIKI	\$36,132.64
DAVIN, VIRGINIA L	\$5,462.90
DEC, LISA	\$1,296.67
DESMARAIS, LISA A.	\$4,755.56
DION, MELANIE L.	\$7,549.41
EAGAN, MICHAEL A	\$34,540.43
EMKEN, MONICA M.	\$300.00
FIELDER, JANICE	\$66,888.48
FROST, WENDY L.	\$4,601.67
GALE, CYNTHIA L.	\$2,220.69
GARDNER, ELAINE M.	\$6,691.66
GENTILOTTI, GLENDA D.	\$14,683.31
GILL, JOANNE	\$378.67
GRAHAM, WILLIAM A	\$12,719.43
GROVER ELLIS, PENNY L	\$11,717.24
HALLION, ANDREA M	\$115,740.94
IMBRUNO, ANTHONY B	\$10,399.66
JONES, MARY JO K	\$78,210.40
KELLEY JR, HENRY	\$43,496.54
LA FRANCE, AMY	\$752.68
LORD, LINDA	\$4,900.74
MACRURY, KRISTINA L	\$7,529.64
MASON, SHARON L.	\$20,144.23
MORGAN, LYNNE	\$64,884.05
MULRY, STACEY	\$7,632.05
PANTANO, BETH A	\$10,396.57
PEDERSEN, CHRISTINA M.	\$10,725.89
PENMAN, ROBERT R.	\$1,083.50
POTTER, LAURETTE A	\$4,121.83
RAINS, CAROL P	\$46,277.73
RENDAL, JOSEPH J	\$67,645.08
SARTORI, EMILY L.	\$61.25
SHAW, STEPHEN G	\$83,337.83
SMITH, PAMELA J	\$66,222.90
SOTO, ANA M	\$25,123.96
SOUCEY, FRANCIS R.	\$22,475.64
SPENCE, PATTI J	\$34,606.73
SULLIVAN, CHRISTOPHER M.	\$4,229.00
TATTERSALL, THOMAS	\$3,298.98
THOMPSON, MICHELE K	\$2,461.01

TOWER, ANITA	\$4,365.77
TREMBLAY, JENNIFER E.	\$6,104.44
WOOD, RACHEL E.	\$7,117.92
ZEI, VICTORIA D.	\$5,863.73



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 Fax: 508-634-2200

Water & Sewer
Commissioners
James Morin, Chm
Aldo P Tarca
Eugene Phillips

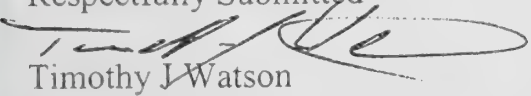
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HOPEDALE WATER DEPARTMENT JULY 1, 2003 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For fiscal year 2004, the Hopedale Water Department produced 105,314,200 gallons of water from its Mill Street well field and 17,738,700 gallons from the Greene Street pump station. All water samples taken within this time period met or exceeded all state and federal regulations. The department received a letter of recognition from the Department of Environmental Protection as being within the top 10 percent of all water systems within the Commonwealth.

The department also continued its system upgrades by replacing a four inch water line on Social Street to a six inch main. This water main enabled the Fire Department to provide their new station with the required volume of water to support a needed sprinkler system. We also saw the installation of 1500 feet of an eight inch water main on Plain Street, which enabled residents in this area to obtain water from a Hopedale source. Prior to this upgrade water was purchased from an outside supplier, fire flows also increased by 1000 gpm. Along with the installation of these two water mains, the department repaired three main breaks, repaired or replaced thirteen service lines along with five fire hydrants.

Our long term goals remain the same. We are continuing to seek approval of our new source and anticipate the installation of a filtration and treatment plant which will assist us in supplying all Hopedale residents with the highest quality of water for years to come.

Respectfully Submitted


Timothy J. Watson
Superintendent

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES

CH 115 OF THE Massachusetts General laws dates back to 1861 and the Civil War and to related laws and regulations, which established a Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services, to oversee state mandated municipal Department of Veterans Services of the distribution of benefits to Massachusetts Veterans.

Local Department of Veterans Services are mandated by State Law to be maintained in all 351 cities and towns for the sole purpose of assisting veterans and their dependents in receiving Federal, State, and Local benefits made available by the U. S. Government, by the Commonwealth and its taxpayers.

It is the job of your Veterans Service Officer to be part of the local governmental structure and the representative of both past and present local veterans population and to provide the veteran and their dependents (living and dead) access to every Federal, State and Local benefits and services to which they are entitled-including assisting in the funeral and honoring them after death.

We estimate that 25% of the residents of our Town are veterans.

In the past, we were designated as Veterans Agents and Directors of Veteran Services this was changed in 2001 to our present designation as Veterans Service Officer.

Statistically, in the years 1945-1995, before the majority of veteran population became senior citizens, fewer veterans, except for the smaller number who had severe disabilities or who were in economic distress and in need of public assistance, sought out the service of the local veterans service officer.

But, with the passage of years, times have changed and help for our veteran is needed today more than ever before.

During the 3rd quarter of the 20th century, much of the Veterans Service Officers caseload concerned elderly WW1 and Spanish American War veterans, during the last quarter of the century, attention turned more to the Vietnam veteran, who, in greater numbers than WW2 and Korean War veterans, turned to their Veterans Service Officers for help, because of problems with PTSD, AGENT ORANGE, HOMELESSNESS and ADDICTION, because the bulk of WW2 and Korean War veterans had settled down to job, education and raising families, during the last half of the 20th century they had little need of the services of the Veteran Service Officers, thus until 1995, the time and energies of most Veterans Service Officers were spent helping a relative handful of veterans or conducting and participating in ceremonial activities, honoring local veterans.

As we enter the 21st century, the WW2 and Korean War veterans who did not need the services of the Veterans Service Officer in the past, are now in the last 3rd of the lives, most well into their 70s and 80s, and for the first time in need of help from their local Veterans Service Officer.

Almost every one of these veterans has medical problems or a need for prescription medication. They are now becoming conscious of services-connected disabilities, once

ignored- and they are searching for missing award and medals-they are now eligible for medical care, prescriptions, real estate abatement, veterans license plates, and burial with full military honors in a State or Federal veterans cemetery.

For the first time in their lives, they can benefit from the services of a Veterans Service Officer, especially if they know that there is a Veteran Service Officer available and what assistance he offers every veteran-regardless of economic status, but only because of their veterans status.

Thus, while it is true, that our veterans ranks are declining, the demand for help from local Veterans Service Officers is on the incline, also, as long as the United States maintains its armed forces, there will always be new veterans that return to Massachusetts to swell the ranks after their tours of duty are ended.

Recent legislation has been enacted by the Commonwealth to benefit our veterans and their dependents.

1. WE NOW HAVE TWO STATE CEMETERIES
2. MANDATED TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION FOR ALL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS
3. INCREASE IN REAL ESTATE TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS
4. GRANTING SURVIVING SPOUSE OF CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS THE SAME REAL ESTATE TAX ABATEMENT THAT THE VETERAN RECEIVED WHILE ALIVE.
5. INCREASED AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES FROM \$500.00 TO \$1500.00 INCLUDING ALL 100% DISABLED VETERANS.
6. ESTABLISHED AND FUNDED A WOMANS VETERANS OUTREACH PROGRAM
7. PEACETIME VETERANS NOW QUALIFY AS VETERANS

Finally, financial benefits paid to eligible veterans under chapter 115, are reimbursable to the town at 75%.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Mastroianni
Veterans Service Officer

